THE LOCAL GUIDE TO MUSIC, ART, DINING, EVENTS & MORE

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Reader submissions are welcome. Due to the huge volume we receive, please accept our apologies if we do not respond right away.

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On Our Cover:



Corey's Angels

By Maggie St. Thomas

Opening Remarks

Why July Matters

July is and has always been my favorite month, and not just because it's the sexiest. Check out my beach body, which I've been perfecting since late June.

This is National Grilling Month, brought to my attention as Paula and I removed last summer's gunk off the grill (before you ask, pressure washing is the way to go). I've learned you can grill almost anything and it will taste delicious, even those hot dogs they sell for 40 cents a package at the dollar store.

It's also UV Safety Month, so apply sunscreen liberally (even if you do support the Republican health care bill). And be sure to hit those covered areas, too, because you might get lucky.

If you favor the spray-on sunscreen, check the label because one of the practical jokers in your house or condo may have switched it with a can of Pam cooking spray.

July is Family Reunion Month, so if you have a big event planned with the kinfolk, make sure you do it here on the beach and have all your out-of-towners spend lots of money and tip generously.

There's a new (to me, anyway) designation for July called Cell Phone Courtesy Month. Okay, youngsters, you can stop laughing. I'm not sure if your source of amusement is the concept itself or the use of the word cell instead of smart. That said, I think it's perfectly courteous to talk, text, tweet, Netflix, etc. if you're driving in the car by yourself.

Moving on, this July saw a wide-release movie (okay, it actually dropped in late June) that I actually wanted to go see in the theater—Baby Driver, an action-packed, music-packed love story masquerading as a crime flick. Superb performances by the two young (and unknown to me) leads, who more



Editor Manson with bestselling author Mary Kay Andrews and PR goddess Tracy Louthain during a recent event at the Destin Barnes & Noble.

Photo by Tara Manson.



This Issue's Contributors

Marilu Morgan (Recommended Reading), a nature lover who grew up in the mountains of northeast Alabama, lives in Destin with husband Chatham, daughter Carla May, and beagles Pocket and Hayduke. She blogs about beagles, babies and books at marilumorgan.com.

Jenna Taylor (Outdoors) is an avid outdoorswoman, content creator and writer. Born and raised in Kentucky, she now lives in Santa Rosa Beach.

30A Guide Service and Southern Whitetail Outfitters. He's also a freelance outdoor photographer and lives in Santa Rosa Beach.

Nikki Hedrick (Corey Feldman), a resident of Seagrove Beach, is a photographer, longtime Beachcomber contributor and co-owner of 850 Music and Entertainment.

Joni Williams (Brew Review) enjoys eating, drinking and hitting the road on the spur of the moment, which is pretty much what she writes about, too. Most of the time.

Jane Morgan (Record Roundup, Stream On) lives in Brooklyn, New York, but grew up in Destin. She graduated from New York University, where she studied music branding and criticism.

Chris Leavenworth (Commentary) has lived in Northwest **Hunter Forbes** (Outdoors) is owner and guide at Florida his whole life. In addition to his work with Destin Harvest and time spent with his family and his dog, Chris enjoys good conversations, reading books, and writing and playing music. We hope to see him at Open Mic Night soon.

> Samantha Lambert (Idyll Hounds Brewery) has been back in Florida almost a year now, and she loves it. "The weather is beautiful, and I love catching up with old friends again," she says. "And I have really enjoyed writing stories for Beachcomber!"

Opening Remarks

than hold their own with Academy Award winners Jamie Foxx and Kevin Spacey.

Look close and you'll see a cameo by Creative Loafing, which is sort of like the Beachcomber of Atlanta. Here's hoping director Edgar Wright films his next movie on the Emerald Coast and sneaks us in.

- Editor Manson

YOUR THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS

Glad to see articles by Charles Morgan in Beachcomber again ("Florida Is Sinking," June 29-July 12 issue). Have missed them the last few years.

- The Champa Shop, Destin

Great. Now he's going to ask for a raise. Jump to page 9 to read the latest from the Beachcomber publisher (among other

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Don't Blink Crew Wins Top Honors at Blue Marlin Classic

Cindy tried her best, yet even a tropical storm couldn't deter the perseverance and skills of the committed fleet of 36 boats competing in the 2017 Emerald Coast Blue Marlin Classic. The final outcome was decided by only two pounds, with Don't Blink named the 2017 tournament champion.

Angler Mike Hickey, Capt. Skip McAllister, mates Sid Little and Wayne Riles, and the crew of the 56 Viking boated a 553-pound blue marlin to claim first place. Bill Horn added the top wahoo, weighing 67.5 pounds and those two fish, plus jackpots, earned the boat a total payout of \$90,600. **Jason Benton** of Tallassee, Alabama, is Don't Blink's owner.

"We've fished this event since 2003, but this is our first weighed marlin," he said. "The ECBC is my favorite tournament-I rate it a 10. None of this was by coincidence. It all worked out, and it's something I'll never forget."

Sixteen-year-old Alex Krake and his veteran crew aboard Team Supreme, a 76 Viking based in Destin and run by Capt. Chase Lake (mates James



Don't Blink, the 2017 ECBC tournament champions. From left—Wiley Parks, first mate Sid Little, Capt. Skip McAllister, second mate Brandon Forristall, Mike Hickey, Bill Horn and owner Jason Benton.

Arnold and Rodney Johnson), made a late challenge only to come up

marlin honors, plus jackpot money for 32 ounces short. Krake whipped a a consolation prize of \$124,785. There

551-pound blue to take second-place were only two marlin weighed this year. Continued on page 6

Parker Selected as "Big of the Year"



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida presented the Big of the Year award for Okaloosa and Walton counties to **Chris Parker** at Sacred Heart Hospital

of the Emerald Coast. The Big of the Year award is presented to the Big Brother or Big Sister who has gone above and beyond as a positive role model.

Parker, a radiographer at Sacred Heart, was surprised with the award by Big Brothers Big Sisters staff and his coworkers. He is one of Big Brothers Big Sisters' most dedicated school-based mentors. He has been visiting his Little Brother, 10-year-old Daevious, weekly at school since they were first matched in December of 2014. In that time, Daevious has attended three different schools, and Chris has moved with him each time.

During their weekly visits, Parker and Daevious eat lunch together, spend time outdoors, work together in the classroom and talk about making good choices. Parker communicates with Daevious' teachers regularly and sets reward systems for Daevious to encourage him to reach his goals. Parker describes Daevious as bright, loving, sweet and talkative.

Daevious has great admiration for Parker. "He's like a 'real' big brother," said Daevious. "My favorite things about Chris are that he's funny and such a great friend."

In addition to being a dedicated Big Brother, Chris is also very active in the community. He serves on the Fresh Start for Children and Families board of directors and also volunteers at their Repeat Street Thrift Store.

"Chris truly lives out our mission both professionally and personally," said Art Schnitzer, diagnostic imaging manager at Sacred Heart Hospital on the Emerald Coast. "We're very fortunate to have him as part of our radiology team, and we're very proud of his commitment to the youth of our community."

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida has been the area's leader in one-to-one mentoring for 28 years by serving children ages 6 to 18. Their mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. Last year, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida served 650 children in Northwest Florida.

- Hannah Yager



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Blue Marlin Classic continued...

Geaux Deep (Capt. Joe "Fish" Hebert) won the top crew and top release team recognition with five fish scoring 1,600 points. JD Hebert was named the top release angler. The team's efforts earned a check for \$37,905. Traders Hill (Capt. Billy Blount) was second in the release division with 900 points, followed by Liquid Apple (Capt. Blake Applewhite) with 600 points. Liquid Apple won \$22,965 for a weekend's worth of fishing.

Angler Dana Foster, who owns Born2Run, a 72 Viking, scored the largest tuna of the week. His 169-pound yellowfin, plus second place crew honors and jackpot money totaled \$47,850.

Chris Crosby, fishing on Black Tip, a 61 Buddy Davis skippered by Capt. Sparky McCann, boated the second-largest tuna, a bigeye at 142.90 pounds. Combined with a 34.70-pound wahoo jackpot, the crew is taking \$39,735 back to Key West, Florida.

Chad Postle, aboard Breathe Easy, a 68 Viking run by Capt. Patrick Ivie, also scored a double-header with the third place tuna (142.3 pounds) and the top dolphin, a bull that tipped the scales at 27.9 pounds. Owner Matt McDonald and his seasoned team scored \$47,850 for those catches.

The extended family team on Trader's Hill, a 105 Broward guided by Capt. Billy Blount, is \$35,876 richer. Drew Marshall won the top junior billfish angler title, and the team racked up three billfish releases overall and jackpot entries for its winnings.

Pullin' Wire, another 61 Buddy Davis run by Capt. Steven Gay, caught the second-largest wahoo for the week at 48.5 pounds. That finish, along with jackpot money, earned \$9,450 for the team. Angler Wesley Carpenter, on Get Reel, a 60 Hatteras (Capt. Cheeze Alawine), rounded out the wahoo division with a speedster scaling 44.2 pounds, good for \$12,885 with optional entries.

Only two dolphin met the 20-pound minimum weight, and Justin Guidry on Emerald Grande, a 73 Donzi, wound in the second 26.7-pound qualifier. Counting jackpot money, that dolphin was worth \$37,200 for the team.

In addition to Hickey and Marshall, other special awards went to Caroline Robinson for the top lady angler trophy (Sea Mixer, Capt. Devin Potts). Guidry earned top gamefish junior angler recognition, and Don't Blink will be representing the ECBC in the 2018 Offshore World Championship in Costa Rica.

Out of the 36 boats competing, 22 earned payouts, mostly for optional jackpot entries. The 238 anglers were competing for \$624,675 in overall prize money and boated 2,163.4 pounds of fish. All of the catch was cleaned by Harbor Docks and donated to the nonprofit Harvest House to help feed the area's less fortunate families. Other charitable recipients of the ECBC include the Sandestin Foundation for Kids and the Billfish Foundation.

"Wow, what an intense week," said tournament director Adam Alfonso. "We dealt with our share of adversity due to the storm, but I'd like to thank all these dedicated teams for sticking with us and bringing in some exceptional fish. Thanks also to our loyal sponsors for ensuring such a world-class event and my team for pulling it all off. We'll be primed to break more ECBC records next year and I've already ordered clear skies, calm seas and a couple grander marlin."

The 16th annual Emerald Coast Blue Marlin Classic is set for June 20-24, 2018, at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort in Miramar Beach.

- Brooke Scholl

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The Rich Are Worried Sick, but (Tax) Relief Is on the Way!

By Carl Hiaasen, Tribune Content expansion of healthcare coverage, the Agency

One of the main gripes about the Senate's plan to replace and repeal Obamacare is that it gives a humongous tax break to the wealthy.

This is true. The Senate bill would slash healthcare spending on the poor and elderly to finance a hefty tax cut that primarily would benefit rich folks in the top brackets.

Admittedly, it sounds sort of cruel-"mean," in the president's own wordsbut some of this talk is coming from marshmallow liberals who believe that nursing-home patients deserve more compassion than hedge fund managers.

Hey, the rich suffer, too. Their voices should be heard.

People who don't make millions of dollars can't relate to the agonizing experience of writing a big fat check to the IRS every three months. That's right—the dreaded quarterlies.

And while the pain of making those payments is mostly emotional—a bilious mix of resentment and dismay-the long-term effects can cause real medical problems for the chronically wealthy.

Apparently that's what happened after Congress passed the Affordable Care Act seven years ago. To help pay for the law imposed a tax on individuals earning more than \$200,000 annually (\$250,000 for married couples), as well as a 3.8 percent fee on investment income.

I don't run a hedge fund, but I recall a wave of queasiness upon learning that my taxes would be rising a bit. No immediate medical attention was required, beyond gulping a couple of Rolaids.

Still, it wasn't hard to empathize with the plight of the uber-rich, whose misery was proportionally much worse than my own. Among high-bracket afflictions traced to the onset of Obamacare taxes were anxiety, insomnia, chipped teeth, elevated blood pressure, facial tics, and irritable bowel syndrome.

These conditions have been anecdotally reported from Palm Beach to Martha's Vinevard to the Monterey peninsula. Many wealthy Americans haven't sought treatment. Instead, they grittily endure, aching for the day when Obamacare is repealed and their tax bills go down.

It must also be noted that some rich taxpayers exhibit no symptoms whatsoever, rarely whine about healthcare taxes at social functions, and claim they don't mind sacrificing to help those less fortunate.

They concede the ACA has big problems and needs fixing, but in principle they don't mind kicking in some dough so that average-earning Americans can afford decent medical care. They say it's good that more sick people have access to doctors, and that lives are being saved every day.

This curious subset of well-off taxpayers also hails the fact that many more healthy people now have insurance, believing this trend will eventually trim consumer health costs and the government's huge tab for subsidized medicine.

I know a few of these soft-hearted folks. They seem smart and fairly sane, but a visit with the Koch brothers might open their innocent eyes!

Sure, the stats from the Congressional Budget Office look awful. The Senate healthcare plan could leave an additional 22 million Americans uninsured by 2026. Proposed drastic cuts to Medicaid would probably hurt someone you personally know.

Here in Florida, three out of five nursing-home patients rely on Medicaid payments, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program provide medical coverage to more than 4.3 million children in low-income

For those with private insurance, Republicans have promised a reduction I feel better already.

CBO, the Senate plan will actually jack up rates for many older Americans.

Under Obamacare, a 64-year-old making \$26,500 a year pays about \$1,700 for a mid-range "silver level" medical policy. Under the Senate replacement bill, the same person would pay \$6,500 in premiums for less coverage.

So, if that was you, you'd be spending almost 25 percent of your income just on medical insurance—a grotesquely higher percentage than most 64-year-old millionaires spend on theirs.

And, yeah, that sucks. But let's not blame the poor millionaires.

It's true that those paying for the ACA are the ones who don't need to worry about affordable medical care, since there is literally no level of medical care they can't afford. But should they be punished for the pre-existing condition of being rich?

No! cry Republican leaders, echoed by the president.

That's why the first priority of repealing Obamacare is a mega-tax cut for the mega-healthy. Think of it as a caring, healing gesture that will, every three months, bring relief to those who need it least.

Trump's Cuba Policy Has Little to Do with Human Rights

By Carl Hiaasen, Tribune Content If aggressively implemented, the new Agency

President Trump rationalized his recent mini-crackdown on Cuba as a way to pressure the Communist government to curb human-rights violations on the island.

The true level of Trump's passion for the plight of civil dissidents—that is to say, zero—is evident from his fondness for Russia and his suck-up visit with Saudi royalty. The president has no moral qualms about dealing with oppressive, authoritarian regimes.

But undoing some of Barack Obama's Cuba initiatives gives Trump an opening to take another gratuitous dig at his predecessor while simultaneously placating hardliners in Miami's Cuban-American community.

policy will sharply reduce the flow of Americans visiting the country, a kick in the teeth to the struggling people of Cuba. It's a strategy that will fail just as miserably as the 55-year-old trade embargo did to weaken the government, or bring meaningful change.

While the new rules won't affect the U.S. airline flights or cruise-line trips to Havana, Americans wishing to travel there will face closer scrutiny by the Treasury Department. And good luck finding a place to stay.

Trump is prohibiting Americans from spending money at any hotels or businesses controlled by Grupo de Administracion Empresarial, the state entity under which the Cuban military runs much of the country's economy.

The discredited notion that starving the regime will hasten democratic reforms was peddled to the president by Sen. Marco Rubio and Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart, among others. It is a worn old path proven futile by the dismal results of the embargo, and opposed by many Cuban Americans today.

Tourism has been soaring in Cuba since 2014, when Obama made it easier to go. There's no question that the government of Raul Castro has benefited from the rain of U.S. dollars, but so have thousands of Cubans who work in the hotels, shops, clubs and restaurants.

In Havana not long ago, I met an engineer who now makes more money behind the wheel of a taxi. It's a common story that underscores both the dead-end reality of the country's socialist economy and the opportunities

that a larger American presence has brought.

Even under Obama, U.S. citizens technically weren't allowed to travel to Cuba as ordinary tourists. There were (and are) 12 categories of authorized travel. The most commonly used is a broad provision for educational "people-to-people" visits.

The rules were relaxed by Obama to allow individuals and families to plan their own Cuba trips for "meaningful interaction" with Cuban citizens. It was basically a wink-wink green light for almost anybody who wanted to go-and tons of people did.

Now Trump has reinstated the past requirement that all "people-to-people"

Continued on page 44

The Virtue of Judging Others

By Chris Leavenworth

To abstain from judging others is an ecumenical principle most decent people try to abide by and rarely question. No one likes being judged, so most people agree that it's a good thing not to do—unless, of course, they've been judged charitably or they're making an approving assessment of somebody else. Then it's not even considered an exception to the rule. Most people don't intuitively view a positive judgment of someone to be judging at all.

Judging is typically only recognized as making a critical assumption about a person. The idea received a bad rap from people who negatively judge large groups of people based on race, sexuality, income or some other ambiguous trait—details that are entirely useless for making a meaningful deduction about the character of a large group of people or a person.

There are those who assume the worst about everyone they meet and seek negative patterns to assign to anyone they're determined not to like. This, too, is obviously not a rational or good way to utilize judgment and possibly another reason why people preach against it.

Any sensible person should make the distinction between bigoted and unfair assumptions and simply making a rational call on someone. Judging someone is nothing more than acknowledging something about a person's true character. I believe that a critical judgment of another person is perfectly acceptable when supported by enough evidence.

A person is judged rationally by observing visible and verifiable patterns about his or her character.

Harsh judgment of a person's character should result in nothing more than whatever it takes to avoid the person, if possible. And, occasionally, it permits calling someone out on his or her bullshit. Unless someone has somehow become an actual inconvenience to you or others, or it's someone you care about who's asking your honest opinion, it's better to keep judgmental thoughts to

yourself, where they are most useful.

Important attributes about ourselves can be revealed by observing others. Unpleasant traits I sometimes see in others, I am sometimes able to find in myself. When I'm being honest, I witness firsthand how unsavory the behavior truly is. If anything, it motivates me to work on myself.

Sometimes observing and acknowledging someone's character reveals nothing but beauty. Knowing that someone is genuinely a good person is a reward in itself. Emulating admirable traits of somebody else is a great exercise to becoming a better person.

There is always something to learn from others by observing good and bad traits honestly.

Anyone who rejects negative feedback and refuses to practice self-awareness lives with his or her head buried in the sand. No one is allowed to judge them. They might say something like, "Only God can judge me!" There's a cost we must all pay for people who are out of touch with reality and demand that no one recognize their lack of self awareness.

Their priority is not becoming a better person and they resent those who will actively take constructive criticism.

They see it as a show of weakness—or admitting defeat—to be receptive to the possibility of being wrong. For some awful reason, they equate stubbornly holding onto a position with validity for it.

For good or for bad, everyone will be judged by others, in many cases unfairly and without objectivity. To think otherwise is profoundly naive.

If a person with a wood plank in their eye can somehow see clearly enough to notice the splinter in my eye, he is in a position to judge me accurately about the splinter in my eye. Asserting that one cannot judge or be judged completely undermines the value of accountability.

Not every negative trait is enough to consider someone a bad person though. Often a person has more redeeming qualities than flaws. It's up to each person to decide what he or she is willing to put up with.

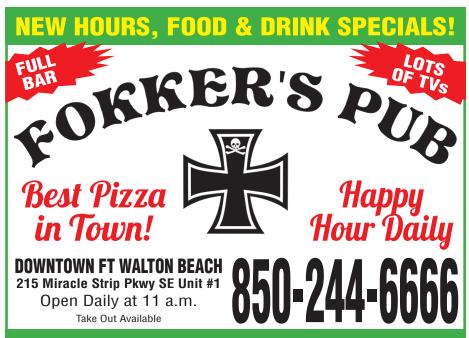
Not only do I maintain that judging people is a good thing to do, I'm convinced we do it all the time without even considering it. Being aware of this, it's crucial to focus on making fair judgment and that our faculty to judge is always improving. Before resolving a conclusion, the judgment must be substantiated with rational and accurate connections.





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Never Ending Circles

By Charles Morgan III

Life is a circle. If you're fortunate, it's a big circle.

Two things that happened more than 50 years ago circled back to me this week.

My father was a 33-year-old attorney in Birmingham in 1963. He was a struggling attorney with a wife and an eight-year-old son. He was a standard lawyer, eager for any case that might come his way that might help pay his bills

Everything changed on September 15th when four young girls were killed in the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church.

The next day, my father delivered a speech to the Young Men's Business Club (YouTube—A Time to Speak, Charles Morgan). Many people's lives changed with that bombing, including my father's.

Our family remained in Birmingham for a couple of weeks after the bombing before hundreds of hate-filled letters and threats forced us to move.

We left for the Washington D.C. area. My father was going to spend almost a year writing a book, *A Time to Speak*. He wasn't a civil rights lawyer before that bombing, but he was from that day forward.

With no money, no job, and my father having never written a book, we

moved from our home to a place we'd So we stayed with the Stewart family. never been and had no place to stay. Ledger and Mary Ellen had gone to the

Vic Gold, a friend of my father's from law school at the University of Alabama, invited us to stay at his home in northern Virginia. Vic and Dale and their children Paige, Jamie and Stephen lived on Lake Barcroft.

Leaving family and friends and moving to a strange place wasn't so bad after all. We were on a lake! I could fish all day. I learned to ice skate in the winter. The neighborhood was full of kids my age.

Vic was the polar opposite of my father when it came to politics. He was the press secretary for Barry Goldwater and later became a speechwriter for George Bush (the elder). He even wrote a book with Dick Cheney's wife.

There were long nights after dinner, and I would watch my dad and Vic drink and argue. Really argue. Really drink. Vic's face would turn to an unnatural shade of red.

I learned that it was okay for friends—real friends—to argue.

A year later, we moved again. My father had finished his book, and we set off for Atlanta and a new job. We knew nothing about Atlanta except that while it was geographically close to Birmingham, it was a far different political and racial climate than what we were used to. But we had no place to stay. Again.

So we stayed with the Stewart family. Ledger and Mary Ellen had gone to the University of Alabama. Ledger knew my dad from law school. They had five kids—four boys—and a basketball court.

We played on that dirt court until the dirt was caked on our hands and would barely come off. Mary Ellen had a counter in the kitchen with loaves of day-old white bread and what seemed like five-gallon jars of peanut butter and grape jelly. We drank powdered milk. We'd get high-top Converse shoes (with imperfections) for \$5.

The Stewart boys played big time basketball at Druid Hills High School. They lived in a classic neighborhood (*Driving Miss Daisy* was filmed just down the street).

The Braves were moving from Milwaukee. The Falcons were coming in 1966. And the Hawks two years after that. Atlanta was great.

There were late nights for the adults. While we played basketball, my father and Ledger would drink and argue politics. It was a repeat from the Gold family's house. Again, I learned that arguing didn't have much to do with friendship.

This week, Mary Ellen Stewart is visiting my mother in Destin. We've been reliving those years. Despite the turmoil in the country and in my family's life, they were wonderful times.

My mother and I are going to Birmingham Thursday for the memorial service for Vic Gold. Vic died last month. His family and his friends who are still living will be there.

My circle has been a good one. I've had some success in business. I've been married since 1979. I've helped raise four children. I've got lots of friends. I don't need much more than that.

At this point, I think what I have learned to value most is not what people might do for me. I've been so lucky and fortunate, it's probably tough to get me a present. But what people did for my parents—and now do for my children—I will not forget.

The Stewart family and all of Vic Gold's children should know something.

I've got a great imagination. But I can't imagine anything that I wouldn't do for the people who helped my family when we needed it.



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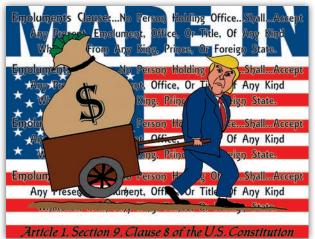


We the People...

Highlights from ADSO's Constitution Show

The Arts and Design Society's "What's in the Constitution" show, on exhibit through July 14 at the Art Center Gallery in Fort Walton Beach, featured more than two dozen stunning creations inspired by the United States Constitution (you know, that thing NPR tweeted on the Fourth of July). Here are a few of our favorites.

HOLLY BAIN - "EMOULMENTS"



"I read this quote somewhere—and it will soon be my next tattoo—that seems appropriate for the current time," says Bain, who serves on the ADSO board and runs the gallery. "Imagination is the only weapon in the war against reality."

Bain says the piece represented one of many Constitution themes that could have been exploited. "I kept it cartoony because more realistic would have been too depressing." Follow the artist on Instagram, where her handle is @holly4565.

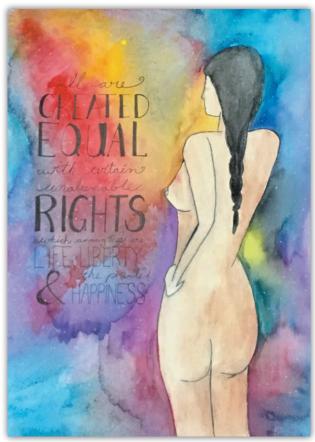
MARCY EADY - "ALL OF US"



"I think, from something she said, her intent was to Discover more about this creative spirit at depict all of us indeed," says ADSO's **Tuny Jennings**.

"The tired, the poor, the infirm, the brilliant, the wealthy, the weak, the strong, all those who go to make up those for whom the Constitution was written. Marcy's clay work is diverse but always captures the spirit of her subject, and captures it with both depth and flair."

MERCEDES RODGERS - "OMISSION + EVOLUTION"



Rodgers says her piece is about "equality for all beings. It is a questioning of the foundation of our current political situation. The contradiction in the history that we're taught and the reality of what our country is founded on has always interested and confused me.

"The Declaration of Independence is an amazing document which changed the way nations are governed for the better, but it starts 'all men' are created equal. This word choice has always troubled me." She deliberately omitted the word "men" from her painting, because Rodgers believes the founding fathers should have said "all beings."

"As a nation and society, we need to evaluate and be more honest about the effects our foundation has on the present," says Rodgers. "Our nation was built on the mistreatment of human beings, animals and the land in the name of economy and profit—a mistreatment that continues in many different forms today.

"My painting is a prayer for that to change."

mercedesrodgers.com.

ART CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

AMUSE ART STUDIO, 1389 N. CR-393, Santa Rosa Beach. Drawing and acrylic classes. Call 850-660-6560 for more info.

ARTFUL THINGS, 1087 East John Sims Parkway, Niceville. Call 850-729-2600 for more info.

Tuesdays. Oil with Rosalyn O'Grady, 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$20 per session plus supplies. Call Ros at 850-865-5343. rosalynogrady.com.

Wednesdays. Watercolor with Lou Kaunzinger, 10 a.m.-noon. Cost for four-week session is \$80 plus supplies. Call Lou at

ARTISTS AT GULF PLACE, 40 Town Center Loop, Santa Rosa Beach. Call 850-622-0400 or visit www.artistsatgulfplace.com

Mondays. Sea Glass with Sara, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Tuesdays. Beach Signs with Neil, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Tuesdays. Sea Glass with Sara, 2-5 p.m.

Wednesdays. Sand Prints with Patti, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Thursdays. Create Your Own Starfish Character with John Hollan, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Thursdays. Jewelry Making with Diane, 3-5 p.m.

Fridays. Create Your Own Starfish Character with John Hollan, 3-6 p.m.

Fridays. Tie Dye with David, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY (ADSO) Classes at the Art Center Gallery, Fort Walton Beach. More info at artsdesignsociety.org.

Mondays and Wednesdays. Clay and Pottery Open Studio, 9 a.m.-noon both days and 6:30-9 p.m. Mondays. Beginners welcome. Cost for morning classes with **Pat Basque** is \$12 (\$10 for ADSO members). Cost for Monday evening class with Marcy **Eady** is \$15 (\$12 for ADSO members). Materials and firing included.

Tuesdays. Art for Children Ages 6-12, 4-5:30 p.m. Marcy Eady teaches about the masters and their styles using principles of basic drawing, painting and sculpture. Media vary each week. Cost per month is \$70 (\$60 for ADSO members). All supplies included.

Tuesdays. Oil Painting with Dale Gauvin, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Learn the Chiaroscuro technique favored by the old masters. Cost is \$85 (\$70 for ADSO members).

Tuesdays. Open Studio, 7-9:30 p.m. Bring your own supplies (except clay—no clay, please) and work with other Beachcomberland artists. Cost is \$10 (\$7 for ADSO members). Call Marcy at 850-585-4967 by 5:30 p.m. to ensure access.

Thursdays Starting Aug. 3. "A Journey in Watercolor **Painting" with Carol Dickson,** 9:30 a.m.-noon. Open to students at all levels. Bring your own supplies. Cost is \$130 (\$110 for ADSO members). Supply list available at the ADSO website.



Fridays. Open Studio, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Same as Tuesdays, but enter through the ADSO office, please.

EMERALD COAST GALLERY & GIFTS, Destin. Call 850-460-8644 to register for classes, and visit **emeraldcoastartgallery.com** for more info.

FULL CIRCLE GALLERY, 29 B Eglin Parkway, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-362-8041 or visit **fullcirclefwb.com** for more info.

Thursdays. Pottery a la Carte, 6-8 p.m. Cost per session is \$35.

HH ARTS, 100 Beal Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-499-2354 to register.

July 18. Driftwood Sea Glass Mobile with Teddie Ciudad-Real, 10 a.m. Cost is \$35, all supplies included. Create your own unique design with driftwood and varied colored glass. Space is limited, so make your reservations early.

THE SHARD SHOP in the Shops of Grayton,

Grayton Beach. ShardWorx is a new way of making art with glass and resin on a painted surface. Open Mon.-Sat., 9:15 a.m.-4 p.m. Classes daily. Adult classes, 9:30 a.m. All ages classes at 11 a.m., 12:45 and 2:15 p.m. Classes last about an hour, and all materials are provided. Artwork is ready the day after class. All skill levels welcome. Adults start at \$85, kids at \$40. Sign up online at **ShardShop.com** or call 850-231-0544.

ART EVENTS

THROUGH JULY 14. ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY (ADSO) "WHAT'S IN THE CONSTITUTION?" SHOW AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BEACH

The art in this exhibition features words from the United States Constitution in the designs. More info at **artsdesignsociety.org**, or call 850-244-1271. See some of our favorites in this issue's art feature.

THROUGH JULY 22. "TALES AND MYTHS: THE PAINTINGS OF KATHERINE ACE" AT MATTIE KELLY ARTS CENTER GALLERIES, NICEVILLE

The exhibition of works by Portland, Oregon-based artist Ace takes familiar and not-so-familiar fairy tales and retells them in large-scale mixed-media paintings. The exhibition is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and 90 minutes prior most Mainstage Theater performances in the McIlroy and Holzhauer Galleries. Call 850-729-6044 for more info.

THROUGH JULY 31. ADSO WINDOW GALLERY EXHIBIT AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY. FORT WALTON BEACH

Multitalented **George Brandon** works in charcoal, pastels and oils to create portraits and seascapes.

THROUGH AUG. 31. KAY RICHOUX EXHIBIT AT WALTON COUNTY COASTAL BRANCH LIBRARY, SANTA ROSA BEACH

Richoux takes over the SoWal library all summer long.

OPENS JULY 18. ADSO'S "ART OF THE LANDSCAPE" AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BEACH

The exhibition features art depicting landscapes and cityscapes. Opening reception Friday, **July 21**, from 6 to 8 p.m. More at **www.artsdesignsociety.org.**

JULY 26. ADSO LUNCHEON AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BEACH

This month, Michael Holman talks about Face Art, a form of found art in which a collage of faces makes up one main image. Cost of the luncheon, which begins at 11:30 a.m., is \$12 if you make your reservations by Monday, July 24. After that, it's \$15. Call Risa at 850-376-3901 or email adsorsvp@gmail.com.

JULY 27. JOYFUL ENRIQUEZ'S "A WORLD UNDERWATER" AT SEVENTH SEAL TATTOO CLUB ART GALLERY, PANAMA CITY

Reception from 6 to 9 p.m. "All of the art depicts the beauty of the color, light and movement of life beneath the waves," says Enriquez. She adds that she is using this show to help raise awareness for local wildlife and ocean conservation efforts. The artist is donating a portion of her art sales to the Gulfarium's C.A.R.E. program and Gulf World Marine Institute.

JULY 28. ADSO PAINT AND SIP FUNDRAISER AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON



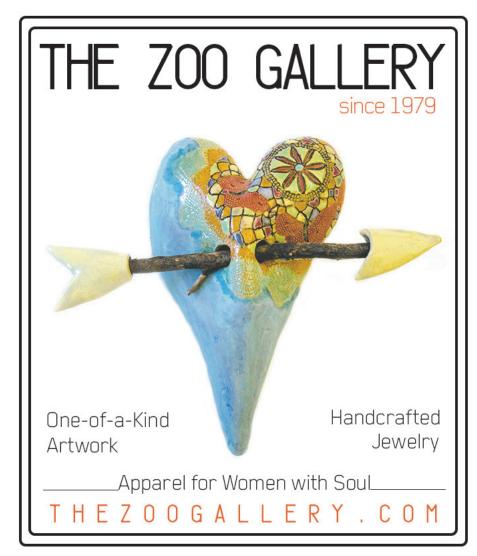
Join award winner **Pat Z. Roberts** from 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. For a \$35 donation, you can complete your own bird of paradise acrylic painting. All art supplies provided by ADSO, but bring your own beverage. Register by **July 26**—call 850-244-1271 or visit **www.artsdesignsociety.org.**

ART GALLERIES

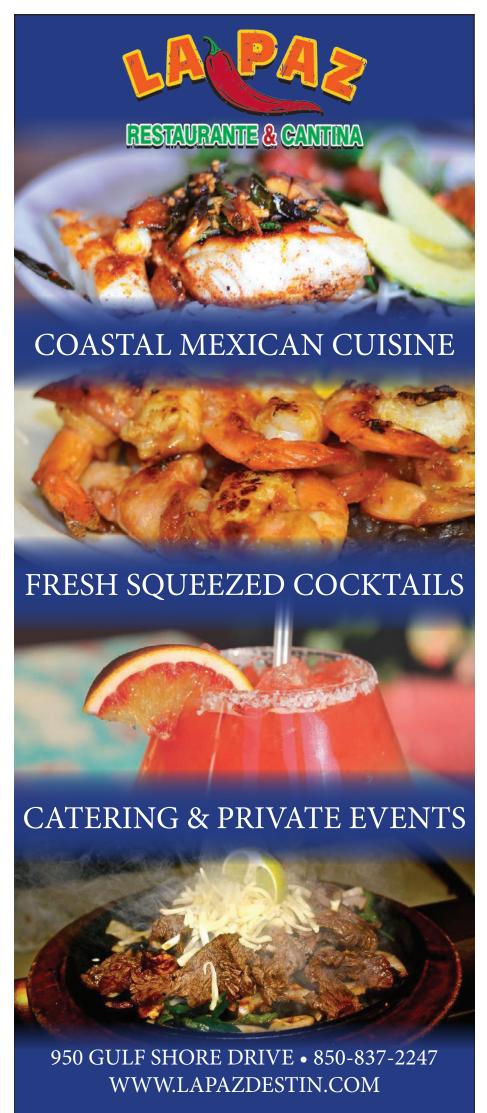
ADARO ART features works from 2015 South Walton Artist of the Year Juan Francisco Adaro, as well as other well-known local and international artists. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Now located in the Shops at the Hub, 7000 E. Scenic Highway 30A, Suite 21, Watersound, 561-985-5767. Email adaro.art@gmail.com or visit adaroart.com for more info.

AMUSE ART STUDIO Acrylic paintings, watercolors and gifts. Owner and artist **Linda Barton** has a Master's Degree in Art Education. Open 2-6 p.m. daily except Wednesdays. 1389 N. CR-393, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-660-6560 or 250-901-0718. Check out more at **amuseartstudio.com.**

ARTFUL THINGS Original oils, watercolors and acrylics, as well as prints and note cards by local artists. Art classes, supplies and custom framing available. 1087 John Sims Pkwy., Niceville, 850-729-2600. **www.artfulthings.net.**







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ARTISTS AT GULF PLACE Eight great artists, one great location. Art, photography, pottery, jewelry, tie dye, glass art, woodworking, classes, workshops and more. Open seven days a week. 40 Town Center Loop, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-0400. www.artistsatgulfplace.com.

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY Features art shows by local and regional artists. Open afternoons Tuesday through Saturday. Shows change monthly. Art classes and workshops in various media. 17 First Street SE, Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-1271. **www.artsdesignsociety.org**.

CARA ROY ARTWORKS Florida tropicals, watercolors, posters of all kinds, note cards, original artworks and gift items. Available at Fusion Art Glass Gallery in Seaside and Grand Boulevard at Sandestin. **www.cararoyartworks.com.**

EMERALD COAST GALLERY & GIFTS features a plethora of one-of-a-kind paintings, handcrafted jewelry, handmade furniture, glass art, prints, home décor and gifts from over 30 local and area artists. Check online at **emeraldcoastartgallery.com** for classes and workshop schedules. Classes are given by gallery owners **Claire Gagne** and **Jennifer Viaene** and other featured artists in the gallery. Classes include acrylic painting, watercolor, mosaic glass and shard glass. Come on in and have some fun! Gallery is located in the McGuire's Shopping Plaza in Destin between Boca Boutique and McGuire's Sushi. 850-460-8644.

FULL CIRCLE GALLERY AND STUDIO is a contemporary and inspirational art space. We feature the works of regional artists in our gallery and offer an array of art classes with award-winning artists. We also have Paint Your Own Pottery. Come get creative with us! Located at 29B Eglin Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-362-8041. **www.fullcirclefwb.com.**

G & CO. GALLERY (formerly Geana's Art Gallery) Located in City Market, Destin. An exciting art gallery and full service frame and mirror shop offering a large selection of local, regional and international artists ranging from local photography to original fine art. Quality and value is second to none. We ship worldwide. 850-650-0779. **www.GAndCoGallery.com.**

HH ARTS is a new gallery offering works for sale from local artists in all mediums. There are many award-winning artists displayed in oil, acrylic, encaustic, collage, clay, handmade candles, and handmade jewelry designs in glass, leather and Victorian style. Studio space available for artists at reasonable rates. An outdoor area is also available for plein air painting or classes, with lighting and overhead covering. There will be classes offered for children and adults. Located at 100 Beal

Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach (three blocks off 98, across from Troy University). Open Tue.-Sat., 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. For more info, call 850-218-2155 and "like" HH Arts on Facebook.

MARY HONG GALLERY Located next to the Shard Shop in the Shops of Grayton. Mary Hong is the 2014 South Walton Artist of the Year and has been featured in over 10 publications, as well as on the Golf Channel's Morning Drive Show and Emeril's Florida TV show. Mary's take on glass art incorporates the use of repurposed glass on painted canvas. She and her team offer classes at the Shard Shop located adjacent to her gallery. There is an extensive retail section full of thousands of pounds of glorious glass and art kits to take your ShardWorx on the go. We host parties and team events, too. Gallery is open Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sundays, noon-5 p.m. 26 Logan Lane, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1416. MaryHongStudio.com.

MATTIE KELLY ART GALLERIES AT NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE The Arts Center Galleries at Northwest Florida State College in Niceville encompass two galleries showcasing 20 different international, national and regional exhibitions yearly, which are unique to this region. Viewing hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Visit www.mattiekellyartscenter.org or call 850-729-6044.

THE ZOO GALLERY Created in 1979. Locally owned small business. We focus on quality, handcrafted work by hardworking artists. Our galleries showcase an eclectic range of curated artwork from all over the country, a jewelry collection like no other, plus unique clothing lines for women with soul. We keep a sense of wonder. We stand out from the herd. Located in Grayton Beach across from the Red Bar and in Grand Boulevard at Sandestin. **#standoutfromtheherd thezoogallery.com**

CALL TO ARTISTS

Arts and Design Society (ADSO) is calling all artists to submit work in any medium for "Art of the Landscape"—art depicting landscapes or cityscapes. Cash awards. Turn-in dates are Saturday, July 15, 1-4 p.m., and Monday, July 17, 9 a.m.-noon. Entry fee is \$35 for two pieces (\$25 for ADSO members). A copy of the entry form with details is available at artsdesignsociety.org. Call 850-244-1271 for more info.

ADSO also invites artists to participate in the upcoming "First Impressions" show, in which artwork in any medium is inspired by any of the Impressionists. Cash awards. Turn-in dates are Saturday, **July 29,** 1-4 p.m., and Monday, **July 31,** 9 a.m.-noon. Entry fee is \$35 for two pieces (\$25 for ADSO members). A copy of the entry form with details is available at **artsdesignsociety.org.** Call 850-244-1271 for more info.





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@30acoloringbook Funky beach vehicles are all the rage on Florida's Scenic Highway.



@keithladdjr Nice one, Keith.



@marilumorgan
Baby's first Fourth of July. Beachcomber contributing writer
Marilu Morgan with adorable Carla May.



Things that make us go YUM... Homemade Georgia sweet potato chips dusted with brown sugar and cayenne pepper. Get you some at Al's on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk.

Corey Feldman Reinvents Himself Again

By Nikki Hedrick

At 45, Corey Feldman is out to reinvent himself as a touring musician, and he has the guts to seemingly take on the world to do so. Acting since he was three, becoming an iconic household name by 14, and then having his personal life and struggles aired in various tabloids and reality TV shows... quite frankly, he's lived several lifetimes of achievements and setbacks in his four and a half decades.

Usually, when I write an interview, I try to erase my voice so whomever I'm talking to has the spotlight. Whether it is a household name or local hero, I want readers to feel like it isn't about me on the other side of the phone, but the artist that has generously shared his or her time with *Beachcomber*.

With Feldman, due in part to the ridicule aimed at his character, it feels necessary to share the series of events that led up the interview.

First—I'll be blunt—I was a bit shocked that the interview was granted. A date and time were slated, and I would be interviewing Corey Feldman.

Interview day comes around, and my nerves hit pretty hard. Ten minutes until the scheduled time and I'm prepared but stressed, phone in one hand and digital recorder in the other. I'm pacing and running talking points through my head, trying to keep calm as possible.

It's now 4 p.m.—interview time. I keep staring at my phone waiting for it to ring. A couple minutes pass, and I begin internally debating the magic number of minutes to let Feldman's PR contact know that I haven't heard from him. Between him being on the road and our time zone differences, a couple minutes off schedule happens fairly often with any interview. But due to Feldman's status, I don't have a number to call or text him on, so I wait and pace.

My phone lights up with Restricted Number. I let it ring once and try to shake the nerves out of my voice.

Feldman warmly greets me and is apologetic for being a few minutes behind our scheduled time. I wave it off, but he sounds stressed and I can hear shuffling in the background. He admits that they are in the middle of checking out of a hotel, and it's a little hectic.

This is never what an interviewer wants to hear, so I offer to postpone. A bit of relief sinks into his voice, and he starts to worry about our time difference and if calling late will be an imposition for me. I'm on the phone with Corey Feldman, and he's concerned about my schedule. After convincing him that later is terrific in my book, we exchange polite goodbyes and I go about my evening with my phone even closer to arm's reach than normal.

Sometime later, I get the call.

I try to chit chat as I scramble to head outside for better phone service and turn my digital recorder on. Again, Feldman is both extremely apologetic, as he feels he is calling too late, and patient, as I attempt to grab everything I need. We talk about his day off, him getting lost in enjoying the sunset, and a person playing the bagpipes in a park.

At this moment I'm good, recorder in one hand and phone in the other sitting under wisteria vines and listening to crickets yell at each other. Only I wasn't. It turns out my new phone case blocks out my phone's microphone for speakerphone capabilities, something I didn't know until this interview. I'm panicked trying to figure out why he can't hear me when I switch over to speakerphone, while Feldman is calm and offering to reschedule if need be.

I finally figure out a workaround, and we proceed to the actual interview. I wanted to share all this because Feldman showed me courtesy and genuine caring that I was frankly floored by.

With the consideration he showed me, it's easy to understand how his fan base continues to be smitten in part due to the time he makes for them. "I know many of them by name and we chat," Feldman says. "I'm very interactive—I'm not hidden, I don't play the Hollywood games. I've been doing this my whole life, and I used to do the whole 'put on a smile and act like you are happy when you are not.' And I just kind of let all of that go. At the end of the day, I needed people to see that I am real and that I'm not some figment—so if you are going to cut me, it's going to hurt.

"I've been to most cities—whether it was an appearance, signing, concert or something—that part of it isn't really new," Feldman says of the travel touring requires. "I think it is more about the expansion of how many dates we are doing and the length of the show." The current tour schedule has Corey Feldman & the Angels playing over 50 dates, and the show has a nearly two-hour runtime. "It is a very big, long show and it takes a huge amount of energy. I play almost every



Photo by Maggie St. Thomas.

instrument at some point in the night, and I'm moving around and dancing and singing.

"The rewards are certainly worth it," he says. "I feel very blessed to even have the fans to warrant this type of tour. The fact that my music is reaching that many people and we have this many people that want to see us and hear us is such a blessing. On top of that, the even bigger blessing is after all these years I'm breaking my own personal record. My first Billboard charting song, selling out of my first pressing of the album in six months, selling out of the vinyl release...we sold 2,000 copies in one day (of the album). It is really staggering...I always kind of imagined it would happen eventually, but it just took way longer than I ever anticipated."

Feldman's music is independently released, making the amount of attention it has garnered even more impressive. "The thing is, what we are doing is kind of historical. I can't really think of another time where an actor at my age can come out on his own dime and do everything organically, out of pocket, and actually get on the charts next to the labels. That's almost unheard of. I feel pride in that I've made something that everyone said was impossible, possible. I had plenty of record labels slam their doors in my face.

"Even Michael Jackson was telling me that I was writing number one songs. He was like, 'Wow, these are incredible. I could get you a number one song.' But I was like 'No, no, I want to do it on my own.'

"The point being, the labels didn't want to admit it or were too afraid to take the risk. At the end of the day, I let that affect me for so long. I wasted so many years wanting to impress them, wanting to get their approval. And finally, one day I said, 'What am I waiting for? I've got my own records, I've got my own fans, they know the music. Who cares?"

Feldman is quick to be protective and complimentary of the Angels, the all-female backing band that includes his wife Courtney. "The show is so mind blowing, they are so talented. Each of them are multi-instrumentalists, singer-songwriters, one is a music professor. They are just really amazing talents."

Although Feldman calls the tour "the most prevalent project in his life right now," he will be returning to both the small and big screens this fall. But the project that seems to have him most excited is the 25th anniversary release of his first albums, with a world tour to follow. "The 25th anniversary will turn into a very big project," he says. "We're probably going to turn it into my first box set because it is going to be multiple CDs, multiple DVDs, unreleased material and lots of stuff to clean up from two inch tracks...the old school tapes."

Corey Feldman will appear at Club LA in Destin **July 27.** For more info, visit **RockDestin.com.**

Beachcomber Profiles* – Bob Cushing



Photo by Walt Strockbine.

HOMETOWN: Cincinnati, Ohio.

PROFESSION: Singer-songwriter-entertainer.

AGE: 53 going on 17.

HOBBIES: Hanging at the beach. Consuming adult beverages. Consuming adult beverages at the beach.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Making the move from Cincinnati to Fort Walton Beach. I came here for the opportunity to play for an ever-fluctuating crowd of tourists. Cincinnati has a great music scene that no one supports.

PROFILE: I'm a solo acoustic performer who has made my living playing

music 300 dates a year since 1989. I've released six albums—five studio and one double live. I'm all about entertaining people, helping them forget their problems for a while, and showing them a good time.

QUOTE: "Time's never wasted when you're wasted all the time." – Bob Cushing

FAVORITE FREE PUBLICATION: Beachcomber!

Bob Cushing's gig schedule appears in this issue's Live Music section. Keep up with all things Bob at www. bobcushing.com.

* Inspired by the late, great Creem magazine.

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Dim Existence

Dim Existence Independent

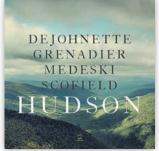


Dim Existence is the one-man rock project of Jason Adams, who hails from Valparaiso. With crunchy guitars and melodic vocals, Dim Existence's future looks quite bright. The five-song debut EP's highlights include the mid-tempo "What to Say"—the chorus is catchy, with layered vocal tracks reminiscent of early Alice in Chains. Here's hoping Dim Existence will bloom into a band that will be playing at a Beachcomberland venue in the near future.

- Nikki Hedrick

Hudson Hudson

Motema



Hudson is a newly formed supergroup made up of John Scofield (guitar, flute), John Medeski (piano, organ, flute, vocals), Larry Grenadier (bass, vocals), and Jack DeJohnette (percussion, flute, vocals). The 11 tracks range from country rock ("Up on Cripple Creek") to several Dylan covers, and some New Age-y stuff like "Great Spirit Peace Chant," complete with (sort of) Native American chants. The content is part playful, part earnest, always swinging, affording all these venerable gentlemen a chance to shine and have fun being geniuses. For my money, Scofield's the standout, particularly on "Cripple Creek" and "A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall."

- Bruce Collier

Jamie Lou and the Hullabaloos

Femi-Socialite

Independent

Jamie Lou isn't a stranger to Beachcomberland, having been a member of Wild Fruit and other projects in the region. She found her Hullabaloos in Arkansas, and their debut album is the closest thing to a modern, organic



Fleetwood Mac take on folky soul I've heard in a long while. With Jamie's sultry voice leading the way, warm harmonies and a certain delicate feel to the instrumentation, this six-song EP will make a fan out of you.

- Nikki Hedrick

Panzacola The New Holy Grail

Independent



Taking its name from Pensacola's original spelling, this alternative rock band is out to explore new sonic territories. From progressive complicated rhythms to smooth southern soul, Panzacola works to craft contradictory styles into something uniquely them. Favorites include the guitar driven "Heaven Help Me," with its stop-start rhythm and evocative chorus, and "Call Us Criminals" for its dream-like reggae guitar tones and unfolding crescendo.

- Nikki Hedrick

Palm Shadow Expert

Carpark



Palm is a Philadelphia-based art rock band with one of the most delightfully entrancing albums of the summer. Their latest EP balances their deconstructed pop and cluttered instrumentals with a joyful spirit and organic synergy between the four-piece. Their writing style is similarly distinctive, with album opener "Walkie Talkie" a product of the band piecing together cutout words from

magazines. Palm is making the kind of **Roger Waters** individual experimental music many bands strive for, but they are exceeding expectations, creating a world so fully their own that it feels natural and exciting to get lost inside of it.

- Jane Morgan

Royal Blood How Did We Get So Dark?

Warner Brothers

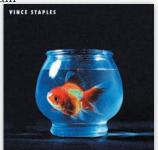


In various interviews, Royal Blood have said their intention when making their newest album was to get back to their original performance style of music, while also emphasizing they'd like to progress. And yet the sound they deliver is one that's familiar and easily recognizable, a good thing if you happen to be a fan. If you're not, it's easy to listen to, though this album is earth-shatteringly profound. Current single "Lights Out" is worthy of the heavy airplay it's getting, but there are more just as worthy—the catchy "I Only Lie When I Love You," "Where Are You Now" and "Hook, Line & Sinker."

- Joni Williams

Vince Staples Big Fish Theory

Def Jam



Staples, the 24-year-old rapper hailing from Long Beach, California, is one of the most consistently exciting and candid voices in music. His songs have always walked a line of being refreshingly direct and slick, but on his latest album, Staples is pushing himself beyond the personal and considering what it means to be a rapper in our society at large. Sonically, this is his most infectious album yet, with production by some of the biggest names in dance music, including Flume and SOPHIE. Big Fish Theory packs in timely, high-level critiques of class and celebrity in a way that makes everyone want to listen.

- Jane Morgan

Is This the Life We Really Want? Columbia



Knowing he hasn't made an album in over two decades, I approached Waters' new LP with the respect deserving of a rock legend and with the expectation that he's probably gotten older. What I discovered by the second track, "Deja Vu," is that I was listening to the closest thing to a Pink Floyd album akin to their late '70s-early '80s work. "Deja Vu" proposes a bold claim that Waters would have done a better job if he had been God. He screams and glass shatters on this track, and it's such a genuine Roger Waters moment. This is a concept album that relates the same dystopian ideas and warnings Pink Floyd shared 40 years ago. Waters employs the dark angst and rebellious attitude his songwriting has always been defined by, and attaches it to the current events in the United Statesit's appropriately terrifying. Waters' lyrics and phrasing are nothing short of ballsy on songs like "Picture That" and "Smell the Roses." And "Birds in a Gale" sounds every bit like a lost track from The Wall. The whole album is exceptional, even decent by Pink Floyd standards.

- Chris Leavenworth

The Passion of Charlie Parker Impulse!



Nine musicians and actors clubbed together to perform The Passion of Charlie Parker. The impressive roster includes (among others) Madeleine Peyroux, Melody Gardot, Luciana Souza, Kurt Elling and Jeffrey Wright. Though the title might suggest it's a tribute album of Parker's greatest hits (there are dozens of Parker cover albums, some actually by sax players), it's more of a cantata or operetta, the kind of thing Leonard Bernstein loved to compose. The worshipful implications of the title are well-founded. It's part biography, part hagiography, part bebop tone poem. In other words, like Parker himself. Diehard fans will relish the drama.

- Bruce Collier

Musicians and venues: Email chris@beachcomberdestin.com to have your gigs listed here.

THURSDAY, JULY 13

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

AL'S BEACH CLUB. The Boardwalk. Okaloosa Island, ALsBeachClub.com MYKE VAN NESS, 5-9 p.m.

BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin AUSTIN JENNINGS, 7 p.m.

CAMILLE'S. Destin. CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

DUCK DUCK, Destin DJ/VJ DOC ROC, 10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650 POST PLUTO, 8 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR, Santa Rosa Beach

AL ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

GRAYTON BEER COMPANY, Santa Rosa Beach

BRUCE SALMON, 5 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach MAX McCANN, 4-7 p.m.

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, EmeraldGrande.com

THE VILLAGE BELLES, 7:30 p.m. Red, White & Blue Celebration

HOG'S BREATH, Destin BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 6-10 p.m.

ISLAND WING CO., Destin BEN FRIEDMAN, 6-9 p.m.

LA PLAYA, Santa Rosa Beach FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 p.m. Ladies Night

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin ADAM HOLT DUO, 6 p.m.

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin BOB CUSHING, 6 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB, Miramar Beach

BOBBYD, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008

RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m. REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa

Beach REDD. THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m. TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach THE STEENOS, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island DIKI ROSS, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30AVENUE, Inlet Beach THE GRAYTONES, 6-9 p.m. Music on the Green

FRIDAY, JULY 14

AJ'S. Destin AUSTIN JENNINGS, 7 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island BRANDON DAY, 3-7 p.m. ALEXA BURROUGHS, 8 p.m.

AL'S BEACH CLUB, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, ALsBeachClub.com BLAKE BROCK BAND, 8 p.m.-Midnight

BOATHOUSE LANDING, Valparaiso ROB ROMANS, 6 p.m.

BRIC A BRAC, Destin JONES & COMPANY, 7-10 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com TONI DRAGO, 3-5 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com DIKI ROSS, 5-9 p.m.

DUCK DUCK, Destin DJ/VJ DOC ROC, 10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650 COLT WILBUR BAND, 9 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach JESSIE SMITH, 9 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach

ED WRANN, 4-7 p.m. HOG'S BREATH, Destin

JIM COUCH, 6-10 p.m. FIVE O'CLOCK CHARLIE, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

KC'S SANDBAR, Fort Walton Beach FINGA FAYA, 4-7 p.m.

LAGERHEADS, Navarre Beach BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin MOSE WILSON & THE DELTA TWANG, Noon

Summer Roof Concert Series ALVARADO ROAD SHOW, 6 p.m.

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin BOB CUSHING, 6 p.m.

MODICA MARKET, Seaside THE STEENOS, 5-7 p.m.

THE ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK, Fort Walton Beach BEN FRIEDMAN, 6-9 p.m.

THE PERFECT PIG, Santa Rosa Beach CHRIS ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008 RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach MOSE WILSON & THE DELTA TWANG, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m. TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SMOKIN' OASIS, Navarre Beach JORDAN BALLANTYNE, 6-10 p.m.

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach TK BARDWELL, 6-9 p.m.

SUNSET BAY CAFE, Miramar Beach MARI GLEASON, 5 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

Live Music Review

The James Brown Dance Party

The Hub 30A, Santa Rosa Beach



30A isn't for the faint of heart during Fourth of July weekend. But with promises of the funky soul music that James Brown brought to the world, Mom and I carefully made our way down to the Hub.

The front parking area was already filled to the brim before the 7 p.m. start time. A security guard stood at the venue entrance, patiently explaining alternate parking. After a couple circles and a little luck, we landed on a spot within easy walking distance.

Although most of the chairs had long been claimed, Mom grabbed a quiet table to munch on chicken fingers and sides while I found an inconspicuous place to snap photos without standing directly in front of anvone.

With the sun still beating down on plenty of already-burned shoulders, the music kicked off on a patriotically decorated stage. There is truth in advertising with the name **The James** Brown Dance Party, as the heat didn't dampen the band's energy.

One of the things that makes this band a little different is instead of a steady lineup, they rotate musicians as needed-this includes members of James Brown's band, as well as

Galactic, the Bootsy Collins Band, and many more. The backbone of this band is the Chase brothersdrummer Adam and guitarist Matt. Beyond those two, though, the audience never knows who will grace the stage.

The Hub show provided a real treat with singer-keys player Jamar Woods. With a distinct nerdy chic, he stepped into Brown's shoes and vocal flourishes with a genuine enthusiasm. Wood remarked on stage that although he now calls Asheville, North Carolina, home, he attended school at both Callaway and Crestview.

Some of the band members did not appear to be familiar with one another, which provided unforgettable moments for the audience. Woods put his whole soul and vocal prowess into a chorus, and the horn players lit up with excitement. It felt like we were in on something special with the band—not just watching them, but participating.

Ice cream was in high demand on that warm summer night at the Hub, but the coolest thing in the place was the very funky James Brown Dance

- Nikki Hedrick

TAILFINS, Destin

BROADCAST 90, 8 p.m.

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach

Friday Night Originals, 7-9 p.m.

30A STORE, Seagrove Beach CASEY KEARNEY, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 15

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach BRANDON DAY, 2-6 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island BT TURNER, 3 p.m.

AL'S BEACH CLUB, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, ALsBeachClub.com BLAKE BROCK BAND, 8 p.m.-Midnight

BEST WESTERN, Okaloosa Island DIKI ROSS, 1 p.m.

BRIC A BRAC, Destin COCONUT RADIO, 6 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.comACTION DOUG, 3-5 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.comBOB CUSHING, 6 p.m.

CHIRINGO, Santa Rosa Beach MARI GLEASON, 1 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650 QWERTY, 9 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR, Santa Rosa Beach

BEN FRIEDMAN, 6-9 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach GARY LAZER EYES, 9 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach SHANK, 4-7 p.m.

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, EmeraldGrande.com

CONTINUUM, 7 p.m. Rock the Docks welcomes the multiple Beachcomber Music Award winning band.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin KEVIN CARSON, 6-10 p.m. FIVE O'CLOCK CHARLIE, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin THE SCRATCHTONES, Noon Summer Roof Concert Series ALVARDO ROAD SHOW, 6 p.m.

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin JORDAN BALLANTYNE, 6-9 p.m. NEW EARTH ARMY, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

THE ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK, Fort Walton Beach WAYNE HALL, 6 p.m.

THE OTHER END, Destin

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008 RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa BeachREDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m. TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach BLUE LEW, 6-9 p.m.

SUNSET BAY CAFE, Miramar Beach AL ALVARADO, 5 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin BROADCAST 90, 8 p.m.

VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF, Sandestin, baytownewharf.com STEVIE HALL, 7-10 p.m. Baytowne Live

WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach

BOBBYD (Sandollar Lounge), 7-10 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 16

AJ'S, Destin ALEXA BURROUGHS, Noon JONES & COMPANY, 4-8 p.m.

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach BRANDON DAY, 4-8 p.m.

AL'S BEACH CLUB, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, ALsBeachClub.com JAMAH TERRY, 5-9 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 a.m.-Noon

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA, HarborWalk Village

BT TURNER, 1 p.m.

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – DUKE BARDWELL – SHANNON WALLACE, et al., 11 a.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650BRYAN LEE, 7 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR,

Santa Rosa Beach CHRIS ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton

Beach MADISONS, 8 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach MAX McCANN, 4-7 p.m.

GULF PLACE, Santa Rosa Beach CONTINUUM 5 p.m.

HARRY T'S LIGHTHOUSE, HarborWalk Village KYLE LaMONICA, 4 p.m.

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Music Schedule

HELEN BACK, Okaloosa Island IORDAN BALLANTYNE 3-8 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin COLE JORDAN, 6-10 p.m.

HOOK'D ON THE HARBOR, Panama City Beach

BOB CUSHING, 2:30 p.m. An all-original show from this issue's Beachcomber Profiles subject.

JUANA'S PAGODAS, Navarre Beach COCONUT RADIO, 3 p.m.

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 p.m. *Sunday Funday*

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destinBOUKOU GROOVE, 1 p.m.

BOUKOU GROOVE, 1 p.m. Summer Roof Concert Series JIMMY LUMPKIN, 6 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008 DREAD CLAMPITT, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 7-10 p.m.

SEAGAR'S, Sandestin RAY HITCHELL, 6-9 p.m.

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach BILL GARRETT, 6-9 p.m.

STINKY'S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach THE STEENOS with FRANKO "WASHBOARD" JACKSON. 11 a.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TREBEACHE, Santa Rosa BeachBILL GARRETT – "SMILIN" FRITZ FROESCHNER,
11 a.m.-2 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 17

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach BRANDON DAY, 6-10 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.comKEVIN CARSON, 3-5 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650 MOSE WILSON & BEN PARSONS, 8 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR, Santa Rosa Beach

KYLE LaMONICA, 6 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach ROSHAMBO, 9 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin JASON FINDLEY, 6-10 p.m. *Cat Shirt Monday*

KC'S SANDBAR, Fort Walton Beach HOPE GIVEN, 7-11 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin

JIMMY LUMPKIN, 6 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008 DREAD CLAMPITT, 7-10 p.m.

SEAGAR'S, Sandestin RAY HITCHELL, 6-9 p.m.

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach JOHN HOORMANN, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TUESDAY, JULY 18

AJ'S, Destin

LEX AND THE LUTHORS, 7 p.m. *Alexa Burroughs and her band.*

AL'S BEACH CLUB, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, ALsBeachClub.com BLAKE BROCK, 5-9 p.m.

BLUE MOON LOUNGE, Milton Open Mic Night, 8 p.m.

BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin AUSTIN JENNINGS, 6 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.comBLAKE GRIFFITHS, 3-5 p.m.

CHIRINGO, Santa Rosa Beach CHRIS ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

EDWARDS FINE FOOD & WINE, Rosemary Beach

JIM COUCH & IKE BARTLEY, 6-10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650 Open Mic Night, 9 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach

PROWESS – JOHNNY ZOSTANT, 8 p.m.

HAMMERHEAD'S, Village of Baytowne Wharf

ED WRANN, Noon-4 p.m.

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, EmeraldGrande.com VILLAGE BRASS BAND, 7 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin BRANDON DAY, 6-10 p.m.

Fat Tuesday

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin

RONNIE PRESLEÝ, 6 p.m.

THE MARKET SHOPS, Sandestin

BOUKOU GROOVE, 5-7 p.m. Pop & Shop Concerts

POMPANO JOE'S, Miramar Beach BOBBYD, 2-5 p.m. DIKI ROSS, 6 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach

REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SEAGAR'S, Sandestin RAY HITCHELL, 6-9 p.m.

SEASIDE AMPHITHEATER, Santa Rosa Beach

HUCK AND LILLY, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach BO ADAMS, 6-9 p.m. *Taco Tuesday* ${\bf SWIZZLE\ STICK\ LOUNGE,\ Okaloosa\ Island}$

BILL GARRETT, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach

Open Mic Live, 7-10 p.m.

VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF, Sandestin, baytownewharf.com STEVIE HALL, 7-10 p.m. Baytowne Live

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach ALEXA BURROUGHS, 5-9 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI. 7:30-10:30 p.m.

AL'S BEACH CLUB, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, ALsBeachClub.com

THREE BEAN SOUP, 5-9 p.m. Stick around for fireworks at 9.

BLUE MOON LOUNGE, Milton Open Mic Night, 8 p.m.

BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com

BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

EDWARDS FINE FOOD & WINE, Rosemary Beach JIM COUCH & IKE BARTLEY, 6-10 p.m.

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666

PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650 THE GRAYTONES, 8 p.m.

HAMMERHEAD'S, Village of Baytowne Wharf ED WRANN, Noon-4 p.m.

HELEN BACK, Fort Walton Beach DJ/VJ DOC ROC, 9 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin AUSTIN JENNINGS, 6-10 p.m.

THE HUB 30A, Santa Rosa Beach HUCK AND LILLY

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin

JUSTIN YAWN, 6 p.m.

THE OTHER END, Destin ROB ROMANS, 6 p.m.

PEDDLER'S PAVILLION, Santa Rosa Beach BEN FRIEDMAN, 6-9 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008 RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach Singer-Songwriter Open Mic, 7-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m. JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SEASIDE AMPHITHEATER, Santa Rosa Beach

THE HIGH DIVERS, 7 p.m.

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach NEIL SEBREE, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island JOHN HOORMANN, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach

TED ROCKET Radio Program, 7-8 p.m.

VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF, Sandestin, baytownewharf.com LAUREN ST. JANE, 7-9 p.m. Wednesday Night Concert Series

WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach

BOBBYD (Sandollar Lounge), 7-10 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 20

CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 p.m.

BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island

AL'S BEACH CLUB, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, AlsBeachClub.com MYKE VAN NESS, 5-9 p.m.

BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin AUSTIN JENNINGS, 7 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com
BRANDON DAY 5-9 p.m.

DUCK DUCK, DestinDJ/VJ DOC ROC, 10 p.m.

EDWARDS FINE FOOD & WINE, Rosemary Beach

JIM COUCH & IKE BARTLEY, 6-10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650 THE MOON LAGOONS, 9 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR, Santa Rosa Beach AL ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach MAX McCANN, 4-7 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, DestinJORDAN BALLANTYNE, 6-10 p.m.

LA PLAYA, Santa Rosa Beach FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 p.m. *Ladies Night*

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin LEFTY COLLINS, 6 p.m.

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin BOB CUSHING, 6 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB, Miramar Beach BOBBYD, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

CONTINUUM, 9 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008 RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa BeachREDD. THE SINGING BARTENDER. 6:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m. TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach THE STEENOS, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island DIKI ROSS, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30AVENUE, Inlet Beach YAMADEO, 6-9 p.m. *Music on the Green*

FRIDAY, JULY 21

AJ'S, Destin AUSTIN JENNINGS, 7 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island BRANDON DAY, 3-7 p.m. ALEXA BURROUGHS, 8 p.m.

AL'S BEACH CLUB, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, AlsBeachClub.com BLAKE BROCK BAND, 8 p.m.-Midnight

BRIC A BRAC, Destin JONES & COMPANY, 7-10 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com TONI DRAGO, 3-5 p.m. **CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com**DIKI ROSS, 5-9 p.m.

DUCK DUCK, DestinDJ/VJ DOC ROC, 10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650

POST PLUTO, 9 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach

DRU CARTER, 4-7 p.m.

HELEN BACK AGAIN, Niceville MARSHA MARSHA MARSHA, 9 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin JIM COUCH, 6-10 p.m. CADILLAC WILLY, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

KC'S SANDBAR, Fort Walton Beach FINGA FAYA, 4-7 p.m.

LAGERHEADS, Navarre Beach BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin HUNDRED DOLLAR CAR, Noon Summer Roof Concert Series

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin BOB CUSHING, 6 p.m.

MODICA MARKET, Seaside THE STEENOS, 5-7 p.m.

GRITS N PIECES, 6 p.m.

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THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008 RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach MAX McCANN & 30A AMIGOS, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m. TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach TK BARDWELL, 6-9 p.m.

SUNSET BAY CAFE, Miramar Beach MARI GLEASON, 5 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach

Friday Night Originals, 7-9 p.m.

30A STORE, Seagrove Beach CASEY KEARNEY, 6 p.m.

VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF, Sandestin, baytownewharf.com BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 7-10 p.m. Baytowne Live

SATURDAY, JULY 22

AJ'S, Destin TOBACCO ROAD, 7 p.m.

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach BRANDON DAY, 2-6 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island BT TURNER, 3 p.m.

AL'S BEACH CLUB, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, ALsBeachClub.com BLAKE BROCK, 8 p.m.-Midnight

ANGLER'S, Okaloosa IslandJORDAN BALLANTYNE, 7-11 p.m.

BEST WESTERN, Okaloosa Island DIKI ROSS, 1 p.m.

BRIC A BRAC, Destin COCONUT RADIO, 6 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.comACTION DOUG, 3-5 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com BOB CUSHING, 6 p.m.

CHIRINGO, Santa Rosa Beach MARI GLEASON, 1 p.m. DANNI COYOTE, 5 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650 THE MOON LAGOONS, 9 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach OCEAN DISCO, 9 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach BRUCE SALMON, 4-7 p.m.

HAMMERHEAD'S, Village of Baytowne Wharf ED WRANN, Noon-4 p.m.

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, EmeraldGrande.com

SWAY JAH VU, 7-9 p.m. Rock the Docks. This band blew us away with their performance at the 2016 Beachcomber Music Awards. Go see 'em.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin BO ADAMS, 6-10 p.m. ROSHAMBO, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin

THE GRAYTONES, Noon Summer Roof Concert Series THREE BEAN SOUP, 6 p.m.

THE ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK, Fort Walton Beach

WAYNE HALL, 6 p.m.

THE OTHER END, Destin ROB ROMANS, 6 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008

RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach

REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m. TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach BLUE LEW, 6-9 p.m.

SUNSET BAY CAFE, Miramar Beach AL ALVARADO, 5 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach

BOBBYD (Sandollar Lounge), 7-10 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 23

AJ'S, Destin

ALEXA BURROUGHS, Noon JONES & COMPANY, 4-8 p.m.

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach BRANDON DAY, 4-8 p.m.

AL'S BEACH CLUB, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, ALsBeachClub.com JAMAH TERRY, 5-9 p.m.

BOSHAMPS, Destin CONTINUUM, 3 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 a.m.-Noon

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA, HarborWalk Village

BT TURNER, 1 p.m.

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach

DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – DUKE BARDWELL – SHANNON WALLACE, et al., 11 a.m.















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FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin. 850-424-6650

MATT McCARTY's Jazz Jam, 7-10 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR. Santa Rosa Beach

CHRIS ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE. Santa Rosa Beach

SCOTT ROCKWOOD / SHAWN HARTUNG, 3-6 p.m.

GULF PLACE, Santa Rosa Beach

KANE AND THE SAINTS, 5-8 p.m.

HAMMERHEAD'S, Village of Baytowne Wharf

WATERZEDGE, 6-10 p.m.

HARRY T'S LIGHTHOUSE, HarborWalk Village

KYLE LaMONICA, 4 p.m.

HELEN BACK, Okaloosa Island

JORDAN BALLANTYNE, 3-8 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin

COLE JORDAN, 5 p.m.

HOOK'D ON THE HARBOR, Panama City Beach

BOB CUSHING, 2:30 p.m. An all-original show from this issue's Beachcomber Profiles subject.

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach

FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 p.m. Sunday Funday

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin

BOUKOU GROOVE, 1 p.m. Summer Roof Concert Series CADILLAC ATTACK, 6 p.m.

POMPANO JOE'S, Miramar Beach BOBBYD, 2-5 p.m.

UPCOMING MUSIC RELEASES

JULY 14

Laura Campisi, Double Mirror John Coltrane, Giant Steps (Also on Vinyl) Offa Rex, The Queen of Hearts Shabazz Palaces, Quazarz: Born on a Gangster Star Vitamin String Quartet, VSQ Performs the

Hits of 2017 Waxahatchee, Out in the Storm

JULY 21

Nicole Atkins, Goodnight Rhonda Lee R.L. Burnside, Worried Blues The Eagle Rock Gospel Singers, No Glory Sara Evans, Words Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley, Stony Hill

The Monkees, Summer of Love Ramones, Leave Home (40th Anniversary Deluxe Edition)

Eddy Raven with Carolina Road, All Grassed

Chris Robinson Brotherhood, Barefoot in the Head

Source: pauseandplay.com, allmusic.com

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008

DREAD CLAMPITT, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and

SEAGAR'S, Sandestin

RAY HITCHELL, 6-9 p.m.

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK. Santa Rosa Beach

BILL GARRETT, 6-9 p.m.

STINKY'S FISH CAMP,

Santa Rosa Beach

THE STEENOS with FRANKO "WASHBOARD" JACKSON, 11 a.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island

CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TREBEACHE, Santa Rosa Beach

BILL GARRETT - "SMILIN" FRITZ FROESCHNER, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 24

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach

BRANDON DAY, 6-10 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com

KEVIN CARSON, 3-5 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650

MOSE WILSON & BEN PARSONS, 8 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR, Santa Rosa Beach

KYLE LaMONICA, 6 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach

ROSHAMBO, 9 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin

JASON FINDLEY, 6-10 p.m. Cat Shirt Monday

KC'S SANDBAR, Fort Walton Beach

HOPE GIVEN, 7-11 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin

HOWLIN' JACK, 6 p.m.

POMPANO JOE'S, Miramar Beach

DIKI ROSS, 6 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008

DREAD CLAMPITT, 7-10 p.m.

SEAGAR'S, Sandestin

RAY HITCHELL, 6-9 p.m.

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach

JOHN HOORMANN, 6-9 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 25

AJ'S. Destin

LEX AND THE LUTHORS, 7 p.m.

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach

Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6-9 p.m.

AL'S BEACH CLUB. The Boardwalk. Okaloosa Island, ALsBeachClub.com

BLAKE BROCK, 5-9 p.m.

BLUE MOON LOUNGE, Milton

Open Mic Night, 8 p.m.

BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin

AUSTIN JENNINGS, 6 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com

BLAKE GRIFFITHS, 3-5 p.m.

CHIRINGO, Santa Rosa Beach

CHRIS ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

EDWARDS FINE FOOD & WINE, Rosemary Beach

JIM COUCH & IKE BARTLEY, 6-10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650

Open Mic Night, 9 p.m.

HAMMERHEAD'S, Village of Baytowne Wharf

ED WRANN, Noon-4 p.m.

HARBORWALK VILLAGE. Destin. EmeraldGrande.com

VILLAGE BRASS BAND, 7 p.m. Fat Tuesday

HOG'S BREATH, Destin

BRANDON DAY, 6-10 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin

SUGARCANE JANE 6 p.m.

THE MARKET SHOPS. Sandestin

CASEY KEARNEY, 5-7 p.m Pop & Shop Concerts

POMPANO JOE'S, Miramar Beach

BOBBYD. 2-5 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa

Beach REDD. THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin

MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SEAGAR'S, Sandestin

RAY HITCHELL, 6-9 p.m.

SEASIDE AMPHITHEATER, Santa Rosa

Beach

HUCK AND LILLY, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach

BO ADAMS, 6-9 p.m. Taco Tuesday

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island

BILL GARRETT, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach

Open Mic Live, 7-10 p.m.

VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF, Sandestin, baytownewharf.com

STEVIE HALL, 7-10 p.m. Baytowne Live

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach ALEXA BURROUGHS, 5-9 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island

Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

AL'S BEACH CLUB, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, ALsBeachClub.com

THREE BEAN SOUP, 5-9 p.m. Fireworks on the stage, followed by fireworks

BLUE MOON LOUNGE, Milton

Open Mic Night, 8 p.m.

BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin

BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

over the Gulf at 9.

CAMILLE'S. Destin. CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com

TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com

BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

EDWARDS FINE FOOD & WINE, Rosemary Beach

JIM COUCH & IKE BARTLEY, 6-10 p.m.

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666

PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650 CONTINUUM, 8 p.m.

HAMMERHEAD'S, Village of Baytowne Wharf

ED WRANN, Noon-4 p.m.

HELEN BACK. Okaloosa Island DJ/VJ DOC ROC, 9 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin AUSTIN JENNINGS, 6-10 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S. Destin.

lulubuffett.com/destin SUGARCANE JANE, 6 p.m.

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB. Destin ROB ROMANS, 8 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008

RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach

Singer-Songwriter Open Mic, 7-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin

MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m. JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SEASIDE AMPHITHEATER, Santa Rosa

THE BRUMMIES. 7 p.m.

Beach

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach NEIL SEBREE, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island

JOHN HOORMANN, 8 p.m.-Midnight 30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE,

Santa Rosa Beach TED ROCKET Radio Program, 7-8 p.m.

VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF, Sandestin, baytownewharf.com

HEATHER GILLIS BAND, 7-9 p.m. Wednesday Night Concert Series

WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach

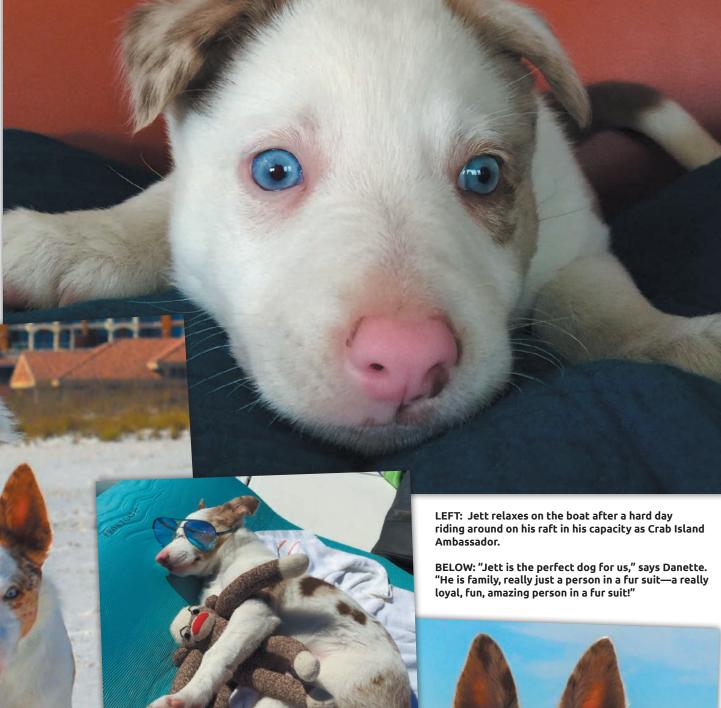
BOBBYD (Sandollar Lounge), 7-10 p.m.



Submitted by Danette Benton

RIGHT: Jett is a smooth coat Border Collie. She and Danette go to weekly agility classes with Lisa Graham at Pets Behave in Niceville. "It is great fun and a good confidence builder for any dog," says Danette. "Whether Jett is ever good enough to compete is not important to me. We come home from class happy, having had a great workout."

BELOW: Danette tries to take the highenergy Jett everywhere she goes. He's good on the paddleboard and loves the beach. "He basically loves to do anything we do."



All information is subject to change. Please refer to the contact numbers and/or emails/websites for up-to-the-minute details. Send us your July 27-Aug. 10 events by 5 p.m. Thursday, **July 20,** or they will not be in our next issue. Please submit events in the format used here. Photos welcome. Email **chris@beachcomberdestin.com**.

ICYMI... Wayside Reunion





Wayside Park was a popular beach hangout for young people from the 1950s to the '80s. Today, the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, full of restaurants and shops, sits where Wayside Park was once located.

Jan Zlata, a 1974 graduate of Choctawhatchee High School in Fort Walton Beach, has organized reunions of the folks who spent time at the park in their younger days. The most recent one took place June 24 at KC's Sandbar in downtown Fort Walton Beach.

"People flew and drove in for the reunion from all over the country," says Zlata. "There were well over 300 people in attendance." Local businesses donated almost \$6,000 in prizes that were given away during the event. Zlata also made photo albums with pictures from the past, many of which came from the popular Fort Walton Beach—What We Did Facebook group.

"People would come up to me repeatedly and tell me they missed the small town community feeling that we all grew up with here in Fort Walton Beach," says Zlata. "Those who attended the reunion told me they saw people they had not seen in 30 or 40 years. I will continue to do the reunions every year."

- Samantha Lambert

THURSDAY, JULY 13

MAGICAL THURSDAY

The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 7 and 8 p.m.

www.BaytowneWharf.com

Join the ubiquitous pirate **Captain Davy** for two adventures on stage.

RED, WHITE & BLUE CELEBRATION

HarborWalk Village, Destin, 7-9:15 p.m.

www.EmeraldGrande.com

A salute to a local hero, plus presentation of the colors, WII vintage air show, entertainment from **The Village Belles**, fireworks at 9, and fire spinning from **Just Add Fire**.

FRIDAY, JULY 14

MAGIC THE GATHERING HOUR OF DEVASTATION DRAFT WEEKEND

TBS Comics, Fort Walton Beach, 7 p.m. For just \$15, get a three-pack draft (whatever that means) and more.

"PIRATES! THE LAST SCOURGE OF THE GULF"

Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso, Noon

850-678-2615

Join **Mike Thomin** from the Florida Public Archaeology Network for a FREE kid-friendly lecture. Bring a sandwich. Space is limited, so call to reserve a spot.

SATURDAY, JULY 15

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET

Grand Park, Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

www.GrandBoulevard.com

Dozens of unique vendors offer mostly locally-sourced food-based items. Specialty soaps and lotions are also for sale.

MONTHLY GAME NIGHT WITH ERIC

TBS Comics, Fort Walton Beach, 6 p.m. Fun for all, with plenty of new and bestselling board games to sample.

WINE FUNDAMENTALS

Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, 1-2:30 p.m. 850-678-2615 Learn the basics of wine, the processes, the differences between red and white wines (um, color?) and food pairings. Sponsored by Twisted Grape. Space is limited—call to preregister. Cost is \$20 (\$15 for museum members).

SUNDAY, JULY 16

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, 5-7:30 p.m. Join REMIX Ministries for fun in the sun, and bring a friend.

INDUSTRY NIGHT

Al's Beach Club & Burger Bar, Okaloosa Island, 10 p.m.-Midniaht

www.ALsBeachClub.com

Specials on Bud Light, plus \$3 fireballs.

MONDAY, JULY 17

HYDROFLIGHT MONDAY

The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.

www.BaytowneWharf.com

Fly-board king **Ben Merrell** soars over the Baytowne lagoon and makes waves.

TUESDAY, JULY 18

BOOMIN' TUESDAY

The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 7-9:30 p.m.

www.BaytowneWharf.com

Lawn games and inflatables in the Events Plaza, followed by a breathtaking fireworks show at 9:15.

DESTIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall Annex, Destin, 6 p.m.

The hot topic—the proposal to shut down the Destin Harbor at midnight or 2 a.m.

FAT TUESDAY PARADE

HarborWalk Village, Destin, 7-10 p.m.

www.EmeraldGrande.com

The Destin Harbor transforms into the Big Easy, with dazzling floats, colorful costumes and street performers. Live music from the **Village Brass Band** at 7 p.m. on the main stage, and fire spinning by **Just Add Fire** following the parade.



Young adult volunteers Rocky Villanueva and Ian Lopez put the finishing touches on their bulletin board design at the Destin Library, highlighting the Total Solar Eclipse event to be held Aug. 21 at the Morgan Sports Complex.

Photo submitted by Will Rogers.

Events

GAME NIGHT

Al's Beach Club & Burger Bar, Okaloosa Island, 10 p.m.-Midnight

www.ALsBeachClub.com

Giant beer pong, hula hooping, corn holing, limbo and more.

TEEN NIGHT

Fudpucker's, Okaloosa Island, 9 p.m.-Midnight www.fudpucker.com

For ages 14-17. Cost is \$15 per person, and VIP tickets are available.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

NATIONAL HOT DOG DAY

Platinum Real Estate Associates, Fort Walton Beach, 5-7 p.m.

FREE hot dogs and drinks, and your chance to win prizes. So brush up on your hot dog trivia.

OKALOOSA ISLAND FIREWORKS

The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, 9 p.m.

www.TheBoardwalkOI.com

Celebrate summer, and enter to win a three-day, two-night stay with ResortQuest Gulf Coast.

THURSDAY, JULY 20

LIP SYNC BATTLES

Al's Beach Club & Burger Bar, Okaloosa Island, 10 p.m.-Midnight

www.ALsBeachClub.com

Your opportunity to dig out those shredded jeans and own the stage.

MAGICAL THURSDAY

The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 7 and 8 p.m. www.BaytowneWharf.com

Join the ubiquitous pirate **Captain Davy** for two adventures on stage.

PLANETARIUM NIGHTS

Emerald Coast Science Center, Fort Walton Beach, 5, 6 and 7 p.m.

An evening of cosmic excitement and adventure.

RED, WHITE & BLUE CELEBRATION

HarborWalk Village, Destin, 7-9:15 p.m.

www.EmeraldGrande.com

A salute to a local hero, plus presentation of the colors, WII vintage air show, entertainment from **The Village Belles**, fireworks at 9, and fire spinning from **Just Add Fire**.

YOLO BOARD RELAY RACE 3

The Bay, Santa Rosa Beach, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

www.yoloboard.com

FREE and open to the public.

EDIDAY IIIIV 21

KIDS NIGHT OUT

Emerald Coast Science Center, Fort Walton Beach, 5:30-9 p.m.

Drop the kiddos off for an evening of hands-on activities, pizza, movies and more. Cost is \$30 per child (\$25 for members).

SATURDAY, JULY 22

"CHRISTMAS IN JULY" CRAFT SHOW AND BAKE SALE

Fort Walton Beach Recreation Center, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 850-833-9586

Check out holiday decor, gifts, baked items, jewelry, toys and more.



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FOURTH ANNUAL FUDPOKER JET SKI **CLASSIC CHARITY POKER RUN**

Choctawhatchee Bav. 9 a.m.

www.fudpokerrun.com

Benefits Children in Crisis and OCSO Star Charity Personal Water Craft, whatever that is.

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET

Grand Park, Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

www.GrandBoulevard.com

Dozens of unique vendors offer mostly locally-sourced food-based items. Specialty soaps and lotions are also for sale.

SUNDAY, JULY 23

INDUSTRY NIGHT

Al's Beach Club & Burger Bar, Okaloosa Island, 10 p.m.-Midnight

www.ALsBeachClub.com

Specials on Bud Light, plus \$3 fireballs.

MONDAY, JULY 24

HYDROFLIGHT MONDAY

The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 6:30 and 8:30 p m

www.BaytowneWharf.com

Fly-board king **Ben Merrell** soars over the Baytowne lagoon and makes waves.

TUESDAY, JULY 25

BOOMIN' TUESDAY

The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 7-9:30 p.m.

www.BaytowneWharf.com

Lawn games and inflatables in the Events Plaza, followed by a breathtaking fireworks show at

CAPTAIN PICKLE READS

Destin Library, 3:30 p.m. 850-837-8572

Destin's own **Dill Beaty** shares his favorite tales in a unique way. Limited to 10 children—call the number above to reserve a spot.

FAT TUESDAY PARADE

HarborWalk Village, Destin, 7-10 p.m.

www.EmeraldGrande.com

The Destin Harbor transforms into the Big Easy. with dazzling floats, colorful costumes and street performers. Live music from the Village Brass Band at 7 p.m. on the main stage, and fire spinning by Just Add Fire following the parade.

GAME NIGHT

Al's Beach Club & Burger Bar, Okaloosa Island, 10 p.m.-Midnight

www.ALsBeachClub.com

Giant beer pong, hula hooping, corn holing, limbo and more.

TEEN NIGHT

Fudpucker's, Okaloosa Island, 9 p.m.-Midnight

www.fudpucker.com

For ages 14-17. Cost is \$15 per person, and VIP tickets are available.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

OKALOOSA ISLAND FIREWORKS

The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, 9 p.m.

www.TheBoardwalkOI.com

Celebrate summer, and enter to win a three-day, two-night stay with ResortQuest Gulf Coast.

THURSDAY, JULY 27

ONEBLOOD DRIVE

The Market Shops, Sandestin, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

oneblood.org

Generally healthy people ages 16 and up and weighing at least 110 pounds are encouraged to donate. Photo ID required. All donors receive a wellness checkup and a OneBlood tumbler.

Beachside Worship Services

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION **EPISCOPAL CHURCH UECNA** 1928 Book of Common Prayer Service, 10 a.m. Sundays, communion service second and fourth Sundays, morning prayer, first and third Sundays. 66 8th Street, Shalimar, 850-651-9800.

DESTIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND

LIFE CENTER Sunday services—beach service at Henderson State Park, Destin, 7:30 a.m. (bring your own chair); beach service at the Crab Trap, Scenic 98, 7:30 a.m. (bring your own chair); summer service at Destin Life Center, 200 Beach Drive, Destin, 10 a.m. (combined traditions and Xalt); sunset beach service at Henderson State Park, 6:30 p.m. (bring your own chair). 850-837-2021.

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sunday worship services: 8:45 and 11 a.m. Nursery and children's church is available. Wednesday bible study at 7 p.m. Located at 306 S. Geronimo St. in Miramar Beach, three blocks west of Silver Sands Outlet Mall. 850-837-7561.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DESTIN Sunday bible study at 9:15 a.m., worship service at 10:30 a.m., prayer group at 5 p.m. Wednesday supper at 6 p.m., followed by youth-kids programs and bible study at 6:30. 201 Beach Drive. 850-837-6515.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SEAGROVE

Sunday services at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 4915 E Hwy. 30A, Seagrove, 850-231-2884.

GOOD NEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday services 8:50 a.m., traditional worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday school, 11 a.m., contemporary worship, 4747 Hwy 98W, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-9191.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Sundays 8 a.m. worship, 9:15 bible study, 10:30 worship, 4325 Commons Drive, 850-654-1679.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH Beach worship at 8 a.m. at Ed Walline Park, intersection of Scenic Highway 30A and CR-393, Santa Rosa Beach. Vintage service at 10:15 a.m. at 3834

U.S. 98 West. For more info, call Pastor Jason Scheler at 850-267-0322 or email pastorj@ hopeonthebeach.org.

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday vigil mass, 5 p.m.; Sunday masses, 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Daily liturgies, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.; Holy Days of Obligation, 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Fridays, 9-10 a.m.; Confessions, Saturdays, 4-4:45 p.m. or by appointment. 259 Miramar Beach Dr., Destin, 850-837-0358.

SAFE HARBOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., worship service at 10:30.801 Airport Road, Destin, 850-837-2133.

SAINT RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH Saturday Vigil mass at 5:30 p.m. year round. Sunday services at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Holy Day services, call the office please. 137 Moll Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, just off U.S. 98. 850-267-2558. www.saintritaparish.org.

SANTA ROSA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Interdenominational service 10 a.m. Sundays. 3524 Hwy. 98W, 850-267-7599.

SHORELINE CHURCH Non-denominational modern Sunday service at 9 and 10:30 a.m. at AMC Motion Pictures in Destin Commons, and Sundays at 9 and 10:30 a.m. at Uptown Station Campus, Fort Walton Beach. 850-650-8658 or www.shorelinechurch.net.

ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH Service at 10 a.m. Sundays. 307 Hwy. 98E, Destin,

ST. MARKELLA & DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH Sunday service at 10 a.m. 400 Hwy. 98E, Mary Esther, 850-244-0822.

ST. SIMON'S ON THE SOUND EPISCOPAL **CHURCH** Sunday services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. 28 Hwy. 98W, FWB, 850-244-8621.

VILLAGE BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday services at 9 and 10:30 a.m. 101 Matthew one block south of Hwy. 98E, Destin, 850-837-8107.



The Freeport Kiwanis kicked a portion of the proceeds from their recent golf tournament to the Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center. The \$7,500 donation went to complete a pledge by the Kiwanis to sponsor a room at the Pierce Family Children's Advocacy Center in DeFuniak Springs. From left—Bryan Gilbert, Kim Henderson and Wanda Pitts. Learn more at www.ECCAC.org.

Photo submitted by Kay Phelan.



WWW.BEACHCOMBERDESTIN.COM

Idyll Chatter... Getting Crafty in Santa Rosa Beach

By Samantha Lambert

Looking for a local brewery to visit? Travel down Highway 98 East into Santa Rosa Beach and turn left onto Serenoa Road. Tucked back off the main road is a huge warehouse that is the home of an almost three-year-old brewery called Idyll Hounds Brewing Company.

Inspired by the white sandy beaches and warm waters of Florida, Idyll Hounds carefully crafts fresh, tasty brews. They brew for beer enthusiasts and novice drinkers alike.

Co-owners **Frasier Hansen and Shawn Sherman** met years ago at the Summer Kitchen where both were working. Both were interested in starting their own brewery. With help from Hansen's parents, the men started their brewery.

"My parents always supported me in my brewery venture. Unfortunately, my Dad passed away right after we had brewed our first batch of beer," says Hansen. The brewery is named after Mike Hansen, whose nickname throughout his life was Hound. The "Idyll" part is a poetic term meaning rustic and rural.

The taproom started out with two chemical drums and a small refrigerator. "The land was fairly cheap out here, and we wanted to build from scratch the way we wanted to build it. We built out everything on day one with the exception of three new tanks we recently added," says Fraser.

"Plus, the area is still growing out here," adds Sherman.

The two flagship beers are the Divide and Conch'r and the Man O' Wheat. Divide and Conch'r is dry-hopped with Simcoe, Centennial, Chinook and Amarillo. It has a balanced malt backbone with a large hop profile. Man



Sasha the Brew Dog.

Photo by Angie Cook.



O'Wheat is an American pale wheat brewed with Centennial, Amarillo and Mosaic hops, with a light citrus finish.

In rotation now are the White Bronco, the Guava and Passion Fruit Sour, and the Mango and Habanero Divide, along with many other beers. Visitors can sit and watch the beer being brewed as they sip on a cold one. There are always at least 24 beers on tap.

Angie and Jeff Cook—along with their friend Rich Goode—visited Idyll Hounds from Tulsa, Oklahoma. Jeff is a part owner of Tulsa's Dead Armadillo Brewery. While vacationing in Northwest Florida, the Cooks decided to try out the beers at Idyll Hounds. Cook liked the taste of the White Bronco. Goode had the Divide and Conch'r and thought it was really good.

"I enjoy the brewing part and creating new beers," says Hansen when asked what he liked the most about owning a brewery. Sherman enjoys meeting new people and telling the story of how Idyll Hounds got started.

And then there is Sasha the Brew Dog—Idyll's official greeter—who enjoys posing for pictures and getting her back scratched.

Oct. 7 marks Idyll Hounds' three-year anniversary, and a big event is planned featuring vendors and live music.

Idyll Hounds beer can be found in most package stores and craft bars from Pensacola to Apalachicola, and into lower Alabama. Idyll Hounds is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 6 p.m. There are food trucks at the brewery on Fridays and Saturdays.

Idyll Hounds Brewing Company is located at 845 Serenoa Road in Santa Rosa Beach. Find out more at **idyllhoundsbrewingcompany.com.**

Beachcomberland Places

ANTIQUES

DE FRANCE ANTIQUES & FLEA MKT. with over 80+ vendors, lots of unique items to choose from. 230 S.E. Eglin Pkwy. 850-314-7500.

SMITH'S ANTIQUES MALL & INTERIORS MARKET 25,000 sq. ft. and 94 vetted dealers have made Smith's the favorite with decorators, locals and tourists for over 20 years. Voted Best of the Emerald Coast for 14 consecutive years, Finest on the Emerald Coast, and Best in Destin... need we say more? Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. 12500 Emerald Coast Parkway, Miramar Beach (near Silver Sands). 850-654-1484. **www.smithsantiquesmall.com.**

BOOKSTORES

READ IT AGAIN Used and rare books. Browse inventory and shop online at **www.readitagain1. com** or just come see us at 703 John Sims Parkway in Niceville, just one block west of Niceville High School. Hours of operation are Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. We have a little bit of everything—popular reads, new releases, fiction, nonfiction, fantasy and science fiction, mystery and suspense, romance, history, military and so much more. 850-279-4646.

EDUCATIONAL

EMERALD COAST SCIENCE CENTER A

unique museum allowing visitors to touch and use the exhibits, including optical illusions, a nature room and a wind tunnel. 31 SW Memorial Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, 850-664-1261. **www.ecscience.org.**

FARMERS' MARKETS

30A FARMERS' MARKETS Two convenient locations. Contact Diane at 850-499-4697 for more info.

- GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS' MARKET AT SANDESTIN 600 Grand Boulevard, Miramar Beach. Saturdays year-round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- 30A FARMERS' MARKET IN ROSEMARY BEACH COMMUNITY Sundays year-round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursdays (Memorial Day through Labor Day), 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

GOLF

REGATTA BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

This award-winning 18-hole course offers an extraordinary golfing experience for players of all skill levels and was named one of *Golf Digest's* Top Places to Play. Equipment rental available. 465 Regatta Bay Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8080. www.regattabay.com.

SANTA ROSA GOLF & BEACH CLUB

Referred to as the "Purest golf in the Florida Panhandle" by *Golf* Magazine, this 18-hole, par 72 course offers five sets of tees and a challenge for every skill level of handicap. Situated on 80 pristine acres in the heart of Santa Rosa Beach, this course has a unique character only found around the Highway 30A corridor. Holes three through five wind around a complex of dunes, all within a few hundred yards of the Gulf of Mexico.

Dining, driving range, putting green and club rentals available. 334 Golf Club Drive, Santa Rosa

Beach, 850-267-2229. www.santarosaclub.com.

MARINE PARKS/ AQUARIUMS

GULFARIUM MARINE ADVENTURE PARK Delight in watching dolphins leap and

sea lions play during spectacular shows! Or participate and interact directly with these and other remarkable marine animals including stingrays, seals and penguins during interactive programming (advance reservations required). Enjoy educational exhibits and beautiful Gulf views. Open daily at 9 a.m. 1010 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-243-9046. www.gulfarium.com.

MUSEUMS

DESTIN HISTORY & FISHING MUSEUM

Open year round, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for holiday hours of operation. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and military and \$3 for children. 108 Stahlman Avenue, Destin, 850-837-6611.

INDIAN TEMPLE MOUND MUSEUM Artifacts and displays showing the rich Indian history of this area. 139 Hwy. 98SE, FWB, 850-833-9595.

MUSIC STORES

LEITZ MUSIC Guitars, bass, drums and keyboards, plus recording, DJ and PA equipment. Sales, repairs and lessons. Gibson, Fender, PRS, Taylor, Martin, Ibanez and more. Open Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sundays noon-5 p.m. Located in Uptown Station, Fort Walton Beach, 850-863-1099. www.facebook.com/LeitzMusicFWB.

PARKS & PUBLIC BEACH ACCESS

BEASLEY WAYSIDE PARK Picnic tables, public beach area, barbecue grills, bathhouse, and restrooms. Gulf side of Okaloosa Island, Hwy. 98W.

BLACKWATER RIVER STATE PARK NW of FWB off Hwy. 90. You can catch sight of lots of wildlife while camping, canoeing, hiking, and fishing. Milton, 850-983-5363.

BLUE MOUNTAIN BEACH Public parking for this access is located at the south end of CR-83 and Scenic Highway 30-A.

BRACKIN WAYSIDE PARK Gulf side of Okaloosa Island on Hwy. 98W. Facilities include restaurants, saloons, children's playground, beach volleyball, three beach accesses, showers, public restrooms, and picnic table.

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK offers hiking, birding, beachcombing, swimming, fishing, canoeing and kayaking along with nine historic buildings. Located at 23937 Panama City Beach Parkway (U.S. 98), 12 miles east of 331, seven miles west of Highway 79. 850-233-5059.

CESSNA BAY Picnic tables, parking, rest rooms and boat access. 1476 N. CR-393.

CLEMENT E. TAYLOR CITY PARK This park is named after one of Destin's early settlers and is on Choctawhatchee Bay. Chock full of shade trees, there are picnic areas and restrooms, but no camping. Destin, off Calhoun Avenue

DUNE ALLEN In Dune Allen beach this access has parking, but no bathrooms, showers or picnic area. 5753 Hwy 30-A W., Santa Rosa Beach.

ED WALLINE A large public beach access in South Walton, providing handicapped

parking, picnic tables, restrooms and showers. Intersection of Hwy 30-A and CR-393.

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK An historic homestead under majestic, moss-draped oaks with a home surrounded by lawns and seasonal gardens. Tours of the home are Thursday through Monday hourly beginning at 10 a.m. with the last tour at 3 p.m. The park and picnic areas are open daily from 8 a.m. to sunset and located on CR-395 north off Hwy 98 in Point Washington. Call 850-231-4214 for more information.

GRAYTON BEACH STATE RECREATION AREA Camping, picnics, hiking, swimming, saltwater fishing, and boating. Showers and electricity are part of the amenities. Access from S. Hwy. 30-A, South Walton, 850-267-8300

GRAYTON DUNES Handicapped and public parking plus beach access. Behind the Red Bar in Grayton Beach.

GULF SHORE MANOR Public restrooms, handicapped and public parking. 3468 E. Hwy 30-A, Seagrove Beach.

GULFVIEW HEIGHTS Located at the end of Gulfview Heights St, behind Goatfeather's restaurant, this access offers parking, picnic areas and restrooms.

HENDERSON BEACH STATE PARK

This park has it all: camping, swimming area sheltered picnic areas, grills, and restrooms. But there is no boat ramp and jet skis and other personal watercraft are prohibited. 17000 Hwy. 98W, Destin, 850-837-7550.

INLET BEACH This area offers handicapped and public parking, restrooms and dune walkovers to the beach. 438 S. Orange St. in Inlet Beach.

LEGION BAY Picnic tables, public parking, boat ramp and restrooms. Intersection of Ponce de Leon and Crest Dr, 191 Crest Dr, Sandestin.

MARIER MEMORIAL PARK Public beach area, picnic tables, barbecue grills, boat ramp, restrooms and bathhouse. Bay side of Okaloosa Island, off Santa Rosa Blvd.

MIRAMAR BEACH ACCESS Parking with public beach access. Scenic Hwy 98 and Driftwood Road, adjacent to Pompano Joe's.

TOPSAIL HILL STATE PRESERVE Two major freshwater coastal dune lakes are located within the 1,600-acre preserve. Campground entrance and day use entrance are located on West Scenic Highway 30-A, 1/4 mile south of U.S. 98. 850-267-0299. **www.floridastateparks.org/topsailhill.**

DESTIN EAST PASS TIDE AND SUNSET CHART

10 1 10 0 10 0 10 0 10 0 10 0 10 0 10		10		
7.13	High Low	1:04pm 11:09pm	5:53am 7:50pm	87
7.14	High Low	1:38pm 11:10pm	5:54am 7:50pm	80
7.15	High Low	8:49am 10:49pm	5:55am 7:49pm	71
7.16	High Low	6:47am 9:17pm	5:55am 7:49pm	61
7.17	High Low	6:32am 4:29pm	5:56am 7:49pm	50
7.18	High Low	6:48am 5:16pm	5:56am 7:48pm	38
7.19	High Low	7:22am 6:10pm	5:57am 7:48pm	27
7.20	High Low	8:08am 7:07pm	5:57am 7:47pm	17
7.21	High Low	9:00am 8:03pm	5:58am 7:47pm	9
7.22	High Low	9:54am 8:55pm	5:59am 7:46pm	3
7.23	High Low	10;47am 9:42pm	5:59am 7:46pm	0
7.24	High Low	11:36am 10:19pm	6:00am 7:45pm	0
7.25	High Low	12:22pm 10:44pm	6:00am 7:45pm	2
7.26	High low	1:03pm 10:51pm	6:01am 7:44pm	7

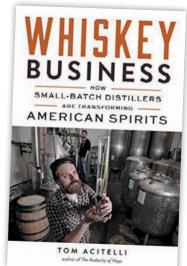
Recommended Reading

Tom Acitelli

Whiskey Business: How Small-Batch Distillers Are Transforming American Spirits

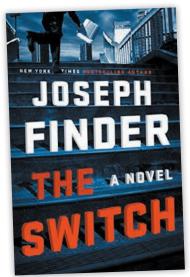
Chicago Review Press

Acitelli is a deft man with titles, as witness his earlier book on craft brewing, *The Audacity of Hops. Whiskey Business* chronicles craft distilling in America, its origins, ascendency, and possible future. The term "craft spirits" itself, the bastard offspring of distillers and ad men, is both descriptive and misleading (like "organic"). Acitelli tells his story in a timeline, hopscotching over years and jumping all over the map of America. His account of the rise of Absolut vodka is a



business school seminar. The story of the near-collapse of the whiskey market in the 1970s is a cautionary tale.

- Bruce Collier



Joseph Finder The Switch

Dutton

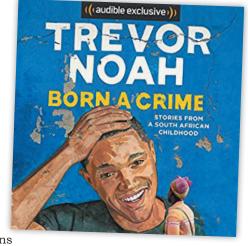
Finder's particularly skilled at stories about ordinary people finding themselves in extraordinary situations, the kind of thing Hitchcock used to turn into great movies. Here, a coffee entrepreneur's laptop gets switched at the airport with a United States Senator's, and all hell breaks loose. Aside from page-turning suspense, there's a great piece of dialogue about the NSA that could have wandered in from one of Barry Eisler's books.

- Chris Manson

Trevor Noah

Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood Audible, Narrated by the Author

Noah, the comedian that replaced Jon Stewart as host of *The Daily Show*, describes his experiences as a colored (the term used in South Africa to describe half-white, half-black folks) person growing up in a black family in South Africa during apartheid. The title is derived from Noah being born mixed race in a time when relations



between blacks and whites were illegal. The content is serious, but he adds enough comedy to keep it light and easy to read. I hate to admit this, but I did not realize how recent apartheid was until I read this memoir, and I certainly did not understand how complex and sometimes arbitrary the legal system was in South Africa during that time. Life was especially hard for black women, as the reader learns through Noah's stories about his mother. Noah's audiobook narration adds a lot to his already amazing story.

- Marilu Morgan

UPCOMING BOOKS

JULY 18

Ace Atkins, The Fallen: A Quinn Colson Novel Jason Calacanis, Angel: How to Invest in Technology Startups — Timeless Advice from an Angel Investor Who Turned \$100,000 into \$100,000,000

Michael Connelly, *The Late Show (Harry Bosch Series)*

Ryan Holiday, *Perennial Seller: The Art of Making and Marketing Work That Lasts* B.A. Paris, *The Break Down*Penelope Sky, *Buttons and Shame*(Paperback)

The Associated Press Stylebook 2017 (Paperback)

JULY 25

Chris Bianco, *Bianco: Pizza, Pasta and Other* Food I Like

C.J. Box, Paradise Valley (Highway Quartet) Christie Golden, Star Wars Battlefront II: Inferno Squad

Elizabeth Peters and Joan Hess, *The Painted Queen (Amelia Peabody Series)*

Laura Shapiro, What She Ate: Six Remarkable Women and the Food That Tells Their Stories Tui T. Sutherland, Darkness of Dragons (Wings of Fire Book 10)

Ruth Ware, The Lying Game

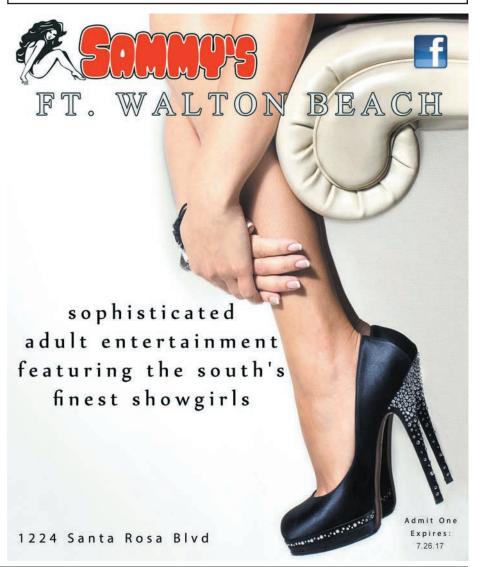
Source: amazon.com

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL NONPROFITS



Fairways for Warriors Supporting combat wounded warriors by using the game of golf.

fairwaysforwarriors.org



ERESE SEREODD?



One of the first questions people ask when they visit our area is "How can we be sure we're getting fresh seafood?"

That's an excellent question. There is a good chance that the seafood you will be offered traveled farther than you did. In the state of Florida, even though we are surrounded by water, more than 90% of the seafood sold this year will be imported from other countries.

Throughout the United States, the huge majority of seafood is imported. Most of it is mislabeled. Frozen seafood is sold as "fresh" and imported seafood is sold as "local." According to Oceana, 93% of fish sold as red snapper is actually some other species. 57% of tuna sold at sushi bars throughout the country is not tuna. Most of the tilapia served in this country comes from Viet Nam and Thailand and much of it is farmed in waters with sewage run-off and the source of feed is pig feces.

Harbor Docks has been selling fish through its wholesale market since 1981. We sell to markets across the United States and Canada. We also sell to select restaurants along the Gulf Coast. Harbor Docks contracts with over 100 commercial boats to insure that we have an adequate supply of fresh fish.

We invite you to dine at our restaurants – Harbor Docks, in the heart of Destin, and Camille's, overlooking the Gulf in Crystal Beach. But we'd also encourage you to try any of the wonderful, independent, local restaurants in our area that are committed to serving Florida seafood. We know who they are, because we sell them their fish.



Check our website to find out which restaurants sell certified Gulf-to-Table fish from Harbor Docks Seafood Market.

DESTIN, FL | 850.837.2506 | HARBORDOCKS.COM

Snapper and Tuna stats: http://oceana.org/en/news-media/publications/reports/oceana-study-reveals-seafood-fraud-nationwide Imported seafood stat: http://www.fishwatch.gov/farmed_seafood/outside_the_us.htm
Tilapia/pig feces: http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-10-11/asian-seafood-raised-on-pig-feces-approved-for-u-s-consumers.html

OPENING SOON IN **THEATERS**

JULY 14

Lady Macbeth. Cosmo Jarvis, Florence Pugh, Naomi Ackie, Paul Hilton

War for the Planet of the Apes. Woody Harrelson, Steve Zahn, Andy Serkis, Karin Konoval.

JULY 21

Dunkirk. The latest from wildly overrated filmmaker Christopher Nolan.

Girls Trip. Regina Hall, Queen Latifah, Jada Pinkett Smith and Tiffany Haddish do New Orleans.

Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets. Cara Delevingne, Clive Owen; directed by Luc Besson.

Source: www.metacritic.com

UPCOMING DVD/ BLU-RAY/VOD RELEASES

JULY 18

Kong: Skull Island. Tom Hiddleston, Brie Larson, John Goodman, John C. Reilly, Samuel L. Jackson.

JULY 25

additive-free.

Niceville 1016A East John

Sims Pkwy

The Boss Baby. Animated; voices of Alec Baldwin, Tobey Maguire, Steve Buscemi.

Ghost in the Shell. Scarlett Johansson.

Gifted. Chris Evans, Octavia Spencer, Jenny Slate, Lindsay Duncan; directed by Marc Webb

Lost in America (Criterion Collection). Albert Brooks' seminal '80s comedy gets the deluxe treatment. TWENTY-TWO... TWENTY-TWO...TWENTY-TWO...

Source: www.metacritic.com

Fort Walton Beach 10 Racetrack Rd. N.W.

LOCAL FILM SCREENINGS

SATURDAY, JULY 15

"FINDING DORY"

Uptown Station, Fort Walton Beach, 7:30 p.m. (or Dark, Whichever Comes First)

UptownStation.com

Grab your lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy a FREE outdoor presentation of the Disney-Pixar sequel to Finding Nemo.

SUNDAY. JULY 16

"FINDING DORY"

The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin,

BaytowneWharf.com

FREE screening of the popular Disney-Pixar sequel on the Events Plaza lawn, in case you missed it Saturday night.

SUNDAY, JULY 23

"INSIDE OUT"

The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin,

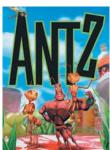
BaytowneWharf.com

FREE screening of the acclaimed animated comedy on the Events Plaza lawn

WEDNESDAY, JUL

"ANTZ"

Camp Helen State Park, Panama City Beach, 5:30 p.m. Movies & More in the park's recreation hall, with a brief interpretive program led by a Camp Helen park



STREAM ON

All We Had

Netflix



All We Had tells the story of Rita and her teenage daughter Ruthie, who live on the road in a broken down car. After hustling the owner of a small town diner for a couple of meals, they find themselves staying and eventually working for the diner after the car refuses to make the getaway. What saves this film from what could be a trite storyline is its superb cast, including Luke Wilson and Katie Holmes, who completely transforms herself into a believable rendition of the hardened and directionless Rita. Likewise, Ruthie's narration is real, depicting the struggle a child who must assume the parenting role of her mom from her POV, but is also capable of rebellious antics that reverse them.

- Joni Williams

GLOW Netflix



The new show from Liz Flahive and Carly Mensch (Orange is the New Black) is a comedic drama based on the 1980s professional women's wrestling franchise, the Gorgeous Ladies of Wrestling. What at first appears to be a Meta critique and exploration on the effort and drama that goes into the creation of a show ultimately becomes an invigorating look into the development of identities and narratives, womanhood and stereotypes, and the constructions of wrestling and television in the '80s. The power of GLOW lies in its real characters, killer soundtrack and playful kitsch. - Jane Morgan

ranger or other authority. The program is followed by an old-fashioned campfire cookout (hot dogs, s'mores). Parent or guardian must accompany all children. Call 850-233-5059 or email CampHelenFriends@gmail.com for more info. Providing quality tobacco products for a lower price that is less harmful to your health. At Crystal Beach Our tobacco is American-grown, chemical and Flavor matching of any of your favorite brands. Wide variety of Fire Safe Cigarettes tube filters **Crestwiew** - 301 N. Main Street Coffee | Smoothies | Juices | Breakfast | Sandwiches | Beer | Wine | Daquairis Pipe tobacco, electronic cigarettes, significant cigars, hookahs, smoking supplies and more... Corner of Scenic Hwy 98 & Hutchinson St. • 850.337.8860 • www.camillesatcrystalbeach.com Daily Happy Hour | Live Music | Monthly Wine Pairing



A Steely Stage Crafters Spectacular

Stage Crafters invites everyone to their second production of the 2017 season, Robert Harling's *Steel Magnolias*, **Aug. 4-13.**

The action is set in Truvy's beauty salon in Chinquapin, Louisiana, where all the ladies who are anybody come to have their hair done. Helped by Annelle, her eager new assistant, the wisecracking Truvy dispenses hairstyles and free advice to the town's rich curmudgeon and local social leader.

Filled with hilarious repartee and not a few acerbic but humorously revealing verbal collisions, the play moves toward tragedy when, in the second act, the spunky and diabetic Shelby risks pregnancy knowing she may lose her life.

The sudden realization of their mortality affects the others, but also draws on their underlying strength and love, which give the play, the characters and the audience the opportunity to enjoy that most precious emotion, "laughter through tears."



Steel Magnolias is a unique classic, not so much a dramedy, but a beloved comedy with heart. This show, directed by Melissa Wolf-Bates, is sure to be one to remember.

Performances are **Aug. 4-6** and **11-13** at the Fort Walton Beach Civic Auditorium. Friday and Saturday shows are at 7:30 p.m. Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 (students pay \$10), available at the door, at P.S. Gifts in Fort Walton Beach and Bayou Book Co. in Niceville, by phone at 850-243-1101, and online at **www.StageCraftersFWB.com.**



Stage > Upcoming Shows

THURSDAY, JULY 13

ACT4MURDER'S "PIRATES, LIES AND MAIL **ORDER BRIDES"**

La Paz, Destin, 7 p.m.

www.act4murder.com

Paula Hilton and her award-winning cast celebrate the return of Red Lea the Dreaded. Pirate of the Gulf, and his sassy sidekick Pillage Ann Freebooty. Cost is \$34.95 per person and includes dinner and show. VIP packages

AWKWARD OXEN IMPROV HOUR

Fonville Press, Alys Beach, 10 a.m.

www.LoveTheREP.com

FREE all ages show.

AWKWARD OXEN LATE NITE IMPROV COMEDY

The REP Theatre, Seaside, 10 p.m.

www.LoveTheREP.com

For ages 13 and up. Tickets are \$10 each or two for \$15.

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "TAMING OF THE SHREW"

Grand Park, Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 8 p.m. www.EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

FREE performance of the Shakespearean classic with a comic bent.

HYPNOSIS GONE WILD - ADULT COMEDY SHOW

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village,

The STOKED Show.com

ILLUSIONIST JEANETTE ANDREWS

The REP Theatre, Seaside, 2 and 6 p.m.

www.LoveTheREP.com

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$15 for students ages 10 and up.

FRIDAY, JULY 14

"STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW"

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 6 and 9:30 p.m.

The STOKED Show.com

SATURDAY, JULY 15

HYPNOSIS GONE WILD - ADULT COMEDY SHOW

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 9:30 p.m.

The STOKED Show.com

KADAN BART ROCKETT & BROOKLYN

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 7:30 p.m.

www.DestinMagic.com

SUNDAY, JULY 16

KADAN BART ROCKETT & BROOKLYN

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 7:30 p.m.

www.DestinMagic.com

"STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW"

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 6 p.m. TheSTOKEDShow.com

MONDAY, JULY 17

ADVENTURES IN ALYS

Alys Beach, 10 a.m. www.LoveTheREP.com

FREE show for all ages.

KADAN BART ROCKETT & BROOKLYN

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 7:30 p.m.

www.DestinMagic.com

"PINOCCHIO"

Seaside Amphitheater, Santa Rosa Beach, 6:30 p.m.

www.LoveTheREP.com

FREE show for all ages.

PIRATE SHOW WITH CAPT. DAVY AND CREW

Al's Beach Club, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

www.ALsBeachClub.com

FREE for kiddies of all ages.

"STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW"

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 6 p.m. TheSTOKEDShow.com

TUESDAY, JULY 18

AWKWARD OXEN LATE NITE IMPROV COMEDY

The REP Theatre. Seaside. 10 p.m.

www.LoveTheREP.com

For ages 13 and up. Tickets are \$10 each or two for \$15

HYPNOSIS GONE WILD - ADULT COMEDY **SHOW**

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village,

TheSTOKEDShow.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

ADVENTURES IN ALYS

Alys Beach, 10 a.m.

www.LoveTheREP.com

FREE show for all ages.

AWKWARD OXEN LATE NITE IMPROV COMEDY

The REP Theatre, Seaside, 10 p.m.

www.LoveTheREP.com

For ages 13 and up. Tickets are \$10 each or two for \$15.

"SISTER ACT"

Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 7:30 p.m. www.MattieKellyArtsCenter.org

The beloved Whoopi Goldberg film reimagined as a musical. Presented by the Northwest Florida State College Division of Humanities, Fine & Performing Arts. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for youth ages 18 and younger. Call 850-729-6000 or purchase online.

"STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW"

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 6 p.m. TheSTOKEDShow.com

"THE TALES OF KING ARTHUR"

North Barrett Square, Rosemary Beach, 6:30 www.LoveTheREP.com

FREE show for all ages.

THURSDAY, JULY 20

ACT4MURDER'S "A MEDLEY FOR MURDER" La Paz, Destin, 7 p.m.

www.act4murder.com

Paula Hilton and her award-winning cast present their latest comedy spectacular, a sidesplitting take on TV singing competitions. You haven't lived until you've experienced the mad skills of rapper Grand Master M. Cost is \$34.95 per person and includes dinner and show. VIP packages available.

AWKWARD OXEN IMPROV HOUR

Fonville Press. Alvs Beach. 10 a.m.

www.LoveTheREP.com

FREE all ages show.

AWKWARD OXEN LATE NITE IMPROV COMEDY

The REP Theatre, Seaside, 10 p.m.

www.LoveTheREP.com

For ages 13 and up. Tickets are \$10 each or two for \$15.

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "TAMING OF THE SHREW"

Grand Park, Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 8 p.m. www.EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

FREE performance of the Shakespearean classic with a comic bent.

HYPNOSIS GONE WILD - ADULT COMEDY SHOW

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 9:30 p.m. TheSTOKEDShow.com

"SISTER ACT"

Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 7:30 p.m. www.MattieKellyArtsCenter.org

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for youth ages 18 and younger. Call 850-729-6000 or purchase

FRIDAY, JULY 21

"SISTER ACT"

Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 7:30 p.m.

www.MattieKellyArtsCenter.org

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for youth ages 18 and younger. Call 850-729-6000 or purchase

"STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 6 p.m. TheSTOKEDShow.com

SATURDAY, JULY 22

HYPNOSIS GONE WILD - ADULT COMEDY **SHOW**

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 9:30 p.m. TheSTOKEDShow.com

KADAN BART ROCKETT & BROOKLYN

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 7:30 p.m. www.DestinMagic.com

"SISTER ACT"

Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 2 and 7:30 p.m. www.MattieKellyArtsCenter.org

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for youth ages 18 and younger. Call 850-729-6000 or purchase

SUNDAY, JULY 23

KADAN BART ROCKETT & BROOKLYN

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village,

www.DestinMagic.com

"STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW"

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 6 p.m. TheSTOKEDShow.com

Alvs Beach. 10 a.m.

FREE show for all ages.

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 7:30 p.m.

www.DestinMagic.com

"PINOCCHIO"

www.LoveTheREP.com

FREE show for all ages.

PIRATE SHOW WITH CAPT. DAVY AND CREW

Al's Beach Club, The Boardwalk, Okaloosa Island, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

www.ALsBeachClub.com

"STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW"

TheSTOKEDShow.com

AWKWARD OXEN LATE NITE IMPROV COMEDY

The REP Theatre, Seaside, 10 p.m.

www.LoveTheREP.com

for \$15.

HYPNOSIS GONE WILD - ADULT COMEDY SHOW

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village,

TheSTOKEDShow.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

ADVENTURES IN ALYS

www.LoveTheREP.com FREE show for all ages.

"STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS

SHOW" Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 6 p.m.

"THE TALES OF KING ARTHUR"

North Barrett Square, Rosemary Beach, 6:30

FREE show for all ages.

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL NONPROFITS <u>850.833.9237</u> > Preventing Child alouse protecting children 10 Restoring Lives eccac.org

MONDAY, JULY 24

ADVENTURES IN ALYS

www.LoveTheREP.com

KADAN BART ROCKETT & BROOKLYN

Seaside Amphitheater, Santa Rosa Beach, 6:30 p.m.

FREE for kiddies of all ages.

Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 25

For ages 13 and up. Tickets are \$10 each or two

9:30 p.m.

Alys Beach, 10 a.m.

TheSTOKEDShow.com

www.LoveTheREP.com



MOULTRIE MOBILE UNITS

The Moultrie Mobile Field Modems are designed to work with any Moultrie wireless compatible camera manufactured in 2015 or later. You must have the modem (mobile unit) as well as your game camera. The modems are \$199, and the cameras range from \$60 to \$300+ depending on the specifications.

These mobile units are an absolute game changer. You hook up your modem to your camera, install the application on your cell phone, and boom—you're able to view your images whenever, wherever in real time. The units are powered by Verizon Wireless 3G network and offer great coverage, even in rural areas. You can find more information at www.moultriemobile.com.





FOOD SOURCE/MINERAL SITE

You're going to want to put your game camera directed towards a food source or mineral site. For you this may mean a small food plot, or in some states where baiting is legal, it may be a corn pile or mineral site.

For the summer months when antlers are growing, we recommend to dig out a good-sized mineral site, allowing the deer to receive maximum nutrients for

antler growth. Mineral sites are also a lot less maintenance than a corn pile or other food source. This will allow you to let the mineral site sit and, if utilizing the Moultrie mobile units, putting the least amount of pressure on the deer herd. If baiting is illegal in your state, we recommend putting the game camera directed towards a food plot or along a heavily used trail.



Trail cameras are a great advancement in hunting. They allow us to keep track of the deer herd and know ages of the deer better, and they give us the ability to harvest and wait on mature bucks that we know are in the area.

When you set up your cameras, don't think of them as being stuck there. Move them around as needed and, if necessary, move them closer to bedding areas. If you're getting a deer on camera only at night, move it closer to where you think they may be during the day time. Then you can set up your climber or tree stand closer to that location with better hopes in seeing them in daylight.

With that being said, trail cameras also don't show us

everything. I've been in the treestand many times when I've had a buck that was never on any of my trail cameras cross my path. This occurs especially during the rut when bucks are on their feet and moving.



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Real Estate Answers

Destin and 30A Real Estate... What Are the Differences? Advantages?

This issue, **Kerry Veach**, co-owner of RE/MAX Southern Real Estate, and **Jerry Sullivan** and **Johnathan Hughes** of Century 21 Blue Marlin Real Estate talk about the actual numbers of the market sales and key differences in each market's value.

Veach has been a licensed real estate broker in Florida and Alabama for over 22 years and is a member of the RE/MAX Hall of Fame.

Sullivan has been involved in commercial and residential real estate for over 14 years, including management, construction and ownership of a successful real estate company here on the Emerald Coast.

Hughes is a market expert on 30A real estate.

Beach comber readers are encouraged to submit real estate questions to ${\bf chris}@$ ${\bf beach comber destin.com}.$

By Kerry Veach, RE/MAX Southern Real Estate

The luxury real estate market in both Destin and 30A is experiencing high demand. Buyers from all around the world are investing in the Emerald Coast. That said, when it comes to a comparison between Destin and 30A, 30A is in a class all its own.

Throughout the recession, circa 2008, prices for luxury real estate on 30A have remained consistent and are actually steadily increasing. This year, 170 homes on 30A priced at more than \$2 million have sold and closed, compared to 23 homes in the same price range in Destin.

To really demonstrate the difference between the two markets, consider a 7,594-square-foot home on 30A sold for \$12.5 million, whereas an 8,020-square-foot home in Sandestin sold for \$7.3 million.

In the Destin condo market, a new complex named 1900 Ninety Eight

By Jerry Sullivan and Johnathan Hughes, Century 21 Blue Marlin Real Estate

When talk of Florida's Emerald Coast comes about, there are often two beachside areas that come to mind—Destin and 30A, where the water seems to splash crystal-clear and the sand shines whiter than pure driven snow. Century 21 Blue Marlin is a firm believer that no wrong decision can be made when it comes to purchasing a home at the beach, but it's worth noting the neighboring communities' differences.

Destin, located in Okaloosa County, continues to be a growing "Destination" for families seeking a beachside vacation or those looking for a more permanent change of scenery. Widely known as "The World's Luckiest Fishing Village," Destin also harbors world-class resorts and rentals, and some of the best shopping and dining you can find. The shoreline of Destin stretches for 24 miles, and over 60 percent of these beaches are private or protected.

30A, short for Scenic Highway 30A, is an 18.5-mile corridor just off Highway 98 that hugs the Gulf of Mexico coastline in Northwest Florida's Walton County. This stretch of sugarfine white beaches and clear Gulf water holds a diverse wonderland of sea oat-covered dunes, hike-able pine forests and rare coastal dune lakes.

Comparatively, Destin and 30A are not competing for buyer's affection, as each offers something the other Kerry Veach continued...

is under construction. It will consist of 10 units, and the 4,556-square-foot penthouse is currently pending at \$3.3 million. The cost per square foot averages \$735.

However, at Costa Blanca, one of 30A's newest condo complexes in Alys Beach, the 4,079-square-foot penthouse is pending at \$4.2 million. With 14 units available, the price per square foot is a phenomenal \$1,041.

While Destin and 30A both offer access to the same stunning beaches, they offer different amenities, attractions, and have a distinct character. The desire to be on 30A—with its unique beach towns, local shops and eateriesis driving the market price there higher. Of course, this is the result of 30A being such a highly sought after vacation destination. Affluent travelers make their way to 30A year-round, staying at places like Adagio in Blue Mountain Beach. As it grows in popularity, it will be interesting to see the market react.



Kerry Veach
Broker/Owner
RE/MAX Southern
Real Estate
Office 850.269.9999
www.BradShoults.com

Jerry Sullivan continued...

does not. In short, the differences are what makes each so special.

Destin is a mega-beach destination dotted with luxurious condominiums and few beachfront homes, whereas the laid-back 30A is primarily beach homes, cottages and villages with very few towering condominiums because of the county's height restrictions.

Destin is decorated with beachfront restaurants each offering menus and views even better than the last. When it comes to beachfront dining along 30A, your choices are limited but still delicious.

When it comes to supporting the local economy (a/k/a shopping), Destin boasts premium shopping like Destin Commons with name brand favorites like Bass Pro Shops, Victoria's Secret and H&M. 30A is home to a number of one-of-a-kind boutiques, most often times showcasing local designers or art.

You can easily get your line wet from either location, but the means by which you do so varies. Hop on board one of Destin's charter boats docked throughout the harbor or snag a ride from one of the local fisherman taking off from right along Grayton Beach.

No matter where you decide to plant your roots along Florida's Emerald Coast, Century 21 Blue Marlin is best suited to find a spectacular investment for you and your family.



Jerry Sullivan &
Johnathan Hughes
Century 21 Blue Marlin
(850) 837-7800
C21BlueMarlin.com



Mark Martin

Major Mark Martin is a 13-year active duty flight test engineer for the 18th Flight Test Squadron, and a man who has also dedicated his personal life to the service of others in need.

"You know the old saying, if you have the right job, you never work a day in your life?" he asks. "Well, that describes me."

Mark's passion early in life was architecture—"the perfect blend of technical and creativity," he says. But reality and cost gave way to his second passion, engineering and flight, a choice Mark has never regretted. Mark's career in the Air Force has been a wonderful adventure, and our communities get to reap the benefits of his other lifelong passion—giving to others.

"For lack of a better example, I am like the old lady who has cats and is always taking in one more stray," he explains. "When I see another new community activity, I can't turn my back on it. Indeed, when someone approaches me with a community project, I volunteer in many cases

without even thinking, because I think I'm making a difference in the world."

This explains the hundreds of community hours Mark has given, in time and hard work, to the Emerald Coast during the two tours of duty that brought him to our area. His charitable nature has not gone unnoticed. Major Martin has earned the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for his devotion to helping others.

Mark has volunteered with Emerald Coast Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, Give a Child Christmas, Emerald Coast Autism Center, Shelter House, Smoke on the Coast, Fisher House, Blues Brews & BBQ, the Air Force Enlisted Village and Habitat for Humanity, a personal favorite.

"Everywhere my job has taken me, I have reached out to Habitat for Humanity or a similar program, because it is at the core of doing for others who are in need," he says.

He has also put his engineering background to work for community children and mentored at several



Mark Martin and other volunteers work the landscaping at Shelter House.





elementary schools. One of his most memorable projects was volunteering for the STEM Program in Robotics at Crestview Elementary.

Whether ensuring that our nation's aircraft protect us, being a part of combating cancer and bone marrow disease, or helping build a playground

for autistic children, Major Martin represents what we expect and see often from our military here—a dedication to serving our country and its citizens.

Submissions for this feature are welcome. Send your candidate's name and contact info to chris@beachcomberdestin.com.



A Relaxed and Stylish Taste of Italy in Destin

Some restaurants give you an immediate impression—good or not so good—as soon as you walk in the door. Stepping in, after blessing the A/C, if you are greeted with the sounds of happy conversation, the sight of bustling servers, and savory scents floating out from the kitchen, you know you picked the right place. Like **Pazzo Italiano** ("Crazy Italian") in Destin.

My wife, our daughter Grace (the Tiny Diner) and I ate at Pazzo on a recent post-Fourth evening. They accept reservations but I can never estimate driving times during summer, so we took a chance without one. The place was more than half-full when we got there at 6:15, and completely full within an hour.

The restaurant is a large rectangle, divided by a partition. To the left is the bar area, with tall tables, intimate booths and plenty of space to eat opposite the liquor display. On the right, the main dining area is more open, set with booths and tables, with seating along a wall banquette. Spacing was wide enough to facilitate conversation without compulsory eavesdropping. We got a table along the wall, where blackboards displaying drink and dinner specials are posted.

Pazzo is decorated is shades of beige, brown, copper, silver and gold, with polished wood, brick and high ceilings. Lighting is stylish lamp and bare-bulb industrial. "Simple yet elegant" is an apt description. At the back of the restaurant is a counter in front of an oven that looks like Darth Vader's head. A constantly moving cook prepares and bakes pizza after pizza.

Our server Andrei brought us water, a basket of warm country bread and seasoned olive oil, and menus. The



bread was dense, chewy and crusty. We polished it off pretty fast.

Pazzo's menu offers appetizers, salads, sandwiches, artisanal pizzas, calzones, pasta variations, and main courses. I figured any place with a wood fired oven and 14 kinds of pizza wants you to try the pizza, so I ordered one with Gorgonzola, mozzarella, caramelized onions and grilled chicken. TD got a children's pizza with cheese and tomato sauce, and my wife went classic with veal saltimbocca.

Before all that, we had to warm up with an appetizer. The menu offered porchetta, antipasto, burrata with prosciutto, seafood soup, mussels, bruschetta, fried calamari, shrimp fra diavolo, and mussels with cannellini beans. We ordered porchetta - slow cooked seasoned pork roast served on crostini, with a little pot of creamy ricotta, drizzled with honey. The pork

was tender and rich, and the sweetened cheese was the perfect contrasting accompaniment.

After giving us time to enjoy the porchetta, Andrei returned and asked us if we were ready for the main course. I really appreciated the fact that we were not rushed (even though the place was busy), and that our food hadn't been sitting back in the kitchen all that time.

Our meal arrived, freshly prepared, the pizzas still popping from the oven. They were big—sharing big, even TD's. Mine was a quadruple treat—salty, creamy, sweet and chewy. I ate about a third of it and boxed the rest. My wife's saltimbocca, sautéed veal topped with prosciutto, mozzarella and porcini mushroom sauce, seasoned with slivers of cured pork (guanciale, maybe?), was a fragrant and hearty feast for about three eaters.

Other options include fettucine Bolognese and Alfredo, penne with vodka tomato cream sauce, spaghetti carbonara or marinara, lasagna, capellini with shrimp, pappardelle with sausage, vegetarian pasta, ravioli, eggplant, veal or chicken parmigiana, cannelloni, veal or chicken piccata and marsala, grilled salmon piccante, and pasta with clams or mixed seafood. Pizzas include margherita, quattro stagione, diavola, Genovese, sostanziosa, bianca, porchetta, and alfonso, with classic, napoletano, and rustic calzones. Salads can be ordered with salmon, chicken or shrimp.

Having boxed much of the meal, we ordered a single dessert for all, a flourless chocolate cake. A generous glossy slice of fudgy, bittersweet chocolate came served on a plate dusted with powdered sugar, drizzled with chocolate syrup and

garnished with whipped cream. My wife ate a few bites and left TD and I to split the rest. That plate we cleaned.

Other desserts are tiramisu, cannoli, and a Nutella calzone. There was also a special dessert, limoncello mascarpone cake. Another day.

When we left, the bar area was packed with drinkers, snackers and diners. Nearly every table was full, and large groups kept rolling in. Faces were smiling and people looked relaxed and satisfied—all this in the heart of summer season. Well done, Crazy Italian.

PAZZO ITALIANO 34903 Emerald Coast Parkway #114 Destin

Hours: Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 p.m.

850-974-5484

Reservations: Accepted

Children's Menu: Yes

Dress: Casual

An oasis of stylish but relaxed and friendly dining in the heart of Destin, Pazzo offers an extensive list of traditional, artisanal and contemporary Italian fare. Choices include numerous pasta variations, salads, calzones and more than a dozen wood fired pizzas, plus seafood, chicken and veal specialties. Full bar, \$5-23.



Bridge Worthy Brews

By Joni Williams

If there's a silver lining to the Mid-Bay Bridge's tolls and the all-too-often tangle of traffic, it's the number of businesses that have sprung up that allow drivers to keep closer to home, especially when home is Seminole, Freeport or the Twin Cities. When you find one that's stellar in every way—service, fare, pricing and, most importantly, vibe—the ultimate test becomes, "Is it bridge worthy?"

It can be a game changer. While there are plenty of fun places to hit up north of the bridge, there aren't too many compelling enough to justify the bridge's hefty fares and frustrating summertime traffic. But **3rd Planet Brewing** in Niceville is.

We showed up around 7 on a Saturday to find the regular and overflow parking lots already packed. Likewise, a good-sized crowd was taking over the front decks, and we had to move fast to find available seating inside the small pub. You'd expect flustered, but there was a friendly and unpretentious vibe here that was comfortable and relaxing.

The selection of brews was not only varied but featured names cleverly depicting the local area, such as Choctaw-hoppee IPA, Rocky Bayou Wheat and Bluewater Hefeweizen. Despite the budding crowd, service was fast, also friendly and knowledgeable. The beertenders expertly assisted more than a few of us, both newbies to seasoned hopheads. Besides brews, 3rd Planet serves wine and cider.

We opted for a flight of five—Crow Cream Ale, Bluewater Hefeweizen, Panhandle Pale Ale, Postal Point Porter and Boggy



Bayou Stout. Though we've never met a stout we didn't like, and Hefes and pale ales are typically among our favorites, it was the cream ale that surprisingly won our hearts.

Billed as a California blonde that makes good use of Europeans and some not-so-common common hops, the Crow has a super smooth feel that's citrusy, hoppy and infused with what we call sweetishness—an authentic by-product of the brewing process that's naturally good and not overpowering. Besides winning new fans among a seasoned brew crew, the Crow would be a good gateway ale for wine drinkers new to the suds scene.

On the other end of the palette (and palate), the stout proved rich, robust and dark with a hit of creamy, chocolate and coffee notes. But as much as we love stouts, it was one-upped by the dark, raisin-y goodness of the well-balanced Postal Point Porter. On the lighter side—though the Panhandle Pale Ale showed up slightly cloudy—it was packed with delicious flavor and citrusy hops that rendered the bitters tame.

The Hefe was more spicy than sweet, not too citrusy, finishing with a crisp, celery-like bite. Though we came away with a few new surprise faves, all the brews were tasty and well balanced, and none were mediocre. That's saying a lot, especially since we weren't paying a lot.

Pricing is based on ABV content, with most brews going for five dollars and a few stronger ones for six. Flights are 10 bucks but can be pared down in both in number and price. One of the many thoughtful touches offered by 3rd Planet is a dry-erase strip for flight patrons to keep track of the selections. Another, using glass rather than plastic cups.

They not only allow outside food to be consumed on the premises, we were told customers can even opt for deliveries like pizza. Eats are also available from a food truck that's often parked outside, or you can stop in at the One 20 A Bistro next door.

And we didn't even have to ask if the pub is Fido-friendly, as more than a few pooches were happily hanging on the outside decks. Likewise, families with kids will fit right in with the crowd. It's not unusual to find live bands like Spanish Fly or Purple Monkey playing or a running club stopping by for a brew.

Open Wednesday through Saturday at 4 p.m., 3rd Planet is an ideal place to duck out of the snail-slow traffic crawling over the Mid-Bay Bridge. But even if a special trip is made (and tolls paid), this is one pub that's totally bridge worthy.



Restaurant Guide

If your favorite restaurant isn't listed here, let us know by dropping an email to us at chris@beachcomberdestin.com!

AMERICAN

CALLAHAN'S A long-time favorite of Destin locals, Callahan's Restaurant & Deli lives up to its name, offering one of the town's most varied selections of deli sandwiches, salads, and full-on meals, with everything from quiche to barbecue. Steaks and chops are a perennial favorite, along with comforting meals of pot roast, prime rib, seafood platters, and some fancier regular and special items. Lunch and dinner; beer, wine and mixed drinks, \$3-20.791 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-6328/837-7171. www.callahansdestin.com. www.facebook.com/callahansdestin.

CHARLIE'S BURGER BAR Destin's first true burger bar has it all-Burgers, Bourbon and Beer! Charlie's has a selection of 17 different burgers from lamb, Black Angus, wild boar, bison, even Ostrich. If you don't want one of the already built burgers, make your own. Select the bun you would like, than the protein, pick your cheese and your sides. The soon to be famous deep fried pickles are to die for. Or live a little and go for Charlie's Funky Fries topped with different types of cheeses. Happy hour daily from 3-6 p.m. Open at 3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. \$3-32, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex, 850-424-7695. www.CharliesBurgerBar.com.

HOOTERS Wings, shrimp, burgers and more. Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun.-Thu., 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Fri. and Sat. Happy hour Mon.-Fri., 3-6 p.m. and 9 p.m.-close. 15015 Emerald Coast Parkway, Destin, 850-654-1007. **hootersonline.com**.

ASIAN

LIN'S ASIAN CUISINE Enjoy carefully prepared and artfully served Chinese and Southeast Asian dishes in a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere. Chicken, beef, pork, duck, fish and shellfish are cooked to suit most tastes, and Lin's offers your favorites—General Tso's chicken, Mongolian beef, pad thai, lo mein and kung pao, among many others. Beer and wine. \$2-15. 130 Scenic Gulf Dr. #5B, Miramar Beach, 850-424-5888.

BAKERIES

CAKEMASTER'S BAKERY II Quality baked goods since 1971, made from scratch on the premises by a fourth generation baker. Decorated cakes for all occasions. New Sweet Expressions cake collection. Breakfast pastries— Danish (cheese, pecan, fruit), assorted coffee cakes, cinnamon rolls, crumb cake, strudel, bienstich, pecan crispies, Delicious delights brownies, ragulah, cream fingers, biscotti, cookies (wedding, sugar, chocolate chip, raisin, fruit bars, holiday) and more. Refrigerated desserts—éclairs, Boston cream pie, cheesecake, black forest cake, Italian rum cake, Napoleons, French creampuffs and more. Come on by and see us. 105 Beach Drive Suite A-3, Fort Walton Beach (behind Pizza Hut on Racetrack Road), 850-862-4911. Closed Mondays.

BARBEQUE

LILLIE'S Q Award-winning on the national level barbecue restaurant located at 9848 Hwy. 98 W., Miramar Beach, approximately seven miles east of the Mid Bay Bridge. We offer barbecue that represents all areas of the U.S., such as pulled pork, baby back ribs, smoked chicken breast and beef tri-tip (sliced sirloin). All meat products are slow smoked using natural wood and lump charcoal. Seven sauce choices with delicious

side orders and the best banana pudding in the Panhandle. We offer a wrap around porch. No inside seating. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Call ahead orders welcomed! 850-654-3911.

BREAKFAST & MORE

ANOTHER BROKEN EGG CAFÉ is the Emerald Coast's premier breakfast, brunch and lunch destination. Sip on one of our award-winning, house infused Bloody Marys while you dine on breakfast classics, memorable brunch dishes or lunchtime favorites. Grand Boulevard – 755 Grand Boulevard, Suite B-107, Miramar Beach, 850-424-3416. Sandestin – 9100 Baytowne Wharf Boulevard, Suite A-4, 850-622-2050. **www.anotherbrokenegg.com.**

ASIAGO'S SKILLET There's no place like it. Open daily from midnight till noon. Try your hand at our one-of-a-kind Crab Cake Benny, mouth watering Bananas Foster French Toast or our classic American Breakfast. We've got something for everyone. Plus, don't miss out on our Build Your Own Bloody Mary Bar, complete with infused vodkas, every weekend. Truly breakfast at its best. 110 Amberjack Drive, Okaloosa Island, 850-586-7998. New location in Destin! 300 Harbor Blvd., 850-424-4160. www.facebook.com/asiago.skillet.

BLUE COLLAR CAFE Made to order breakfast and lunch served all day. House made bagels. Full coffee bar with Maas coffee and espresso roasted at the cafe. Home of the famous BOB (breakfast on a bagel) and New York style lox and house-mixed cream cheese. Salads and sides, homemade scones and sweets. Open Mon.-Fri., 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. 104 Hollywood Blvd. SW, Fort Walton Beach.

CAMILLE'S CAFE Start your day with coffee and breakfast. We feature fluffy eggs, cinnamon rolls, apple pie muffins, fresh juice and smoothies. For lunch, enjoy our fresh caught tuna salad on an Asiago cheese bagel, Sriracha turkey sandwich or Mediterranean chicken salad sandwich. Plus all day Bloody Marys, mimosas, beer, and daiquiris made with fresh-squeezed juice. Join our party! 2931 Scenic Highway 98, Destin, 850-337-8860.

THE DONUT HOLE Breakfast, donuts, sandwiches, salads, burgers and more. 635 U.S. 98 E, Destin, 850-837-8824.

THE DONUT HOLE 6745 U.S. 98 W, Santa Rosa Beach. 850-267-3239.

THE DONUT HOLE 12983 U.S. 98 E, Inlet Beach, 850-213-3127.

THE LOCAL MARKET Open 7 a.m.-3 p.m. daily. Fresh pressed juices, coffee, breakfast, gourmet sandwiches, homemade ice cream and more. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-460-8979.

THE PANCAKERY Serving breakfast and lunch daily from 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. Featuring build your own pancakes and omelettes! Waffles, French Toast, crepes, benedicts, bananas foster and all traditional breakfast items. Also, lunch menu includes sandwiches, burgers, salads, wraps, and loaded potatoes. Now serving bloody marys, mimosas and cold beer. 960 Hwy 98 East, Suite 104, Destin. 850-269-0791.

TOMMY MATTONIE'S Looking for upscale breakfast options? We offer 13 different Eggs Benedicts and numerous specialty waffles. Trip Advisor honored us with a Certificate of

Excellence for 2015. Our list of New Orleans style po-boys for lunch is just as extensive as the Eggs Benedict selections. We serve only local fresh bay shrimp and offer some of the best slow smoked BBQ in FWB. We also serve salads, Floribbean tacos, soups and daily specials. Check Facebook for our daily specials. Open 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day except Mondays. Located at 723 Eglin Parkway NE in FWB near the Shalimar Bridge. 850-862-0895. www.tommymattonies.com.

BURGERS

CHARLIE'S BURGER BAR Burgers, bourbon and beer. Pick from 18 burgers or build your own. Over 50 beers and bourbons, funky French fries, milk shakes for all ages. Located at 2 Harbor Blvd. in HarborWalk Village's Crab Island Cantina Complex, Destin, 850-424-7695.

CASUAL DINING

FUDPUCKER'S BEACHSIDE BAR & GRILL – DESTIN Find out why Fudpucker's is #1 for Food and Fun. Fud's has offered great food, live alligators and world famous t-shirts in a fun filled family atmosphere since 1982. Family entertainment is offered nightly with The Fudnominals interactive dance team, and Teen Night is held every Thursday and Friday. Download the Fud app for daily deals on food, drinks and merchandise. 20001 Emerald Coast Parkway, across from Henderson Beach State Park. Call 850-654-4200 or visit us at www.fudpucker.com.

HOG'S BREATH CAFE A local favorite located in the heart of Destin, Hog's Breath offers a

varied menu selection, from seafood tacos to BBQ platters. Sit inside or enjoy the beautiful Emerald Coast weather, all while listening to live local entertainment. Fun for the entire family. Open daily, 11 a.m. until 2 a.m. 541 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-5991. "Hog's Breath is better than no breath at all!" www.hogsbreath.com/destin.

CATERING

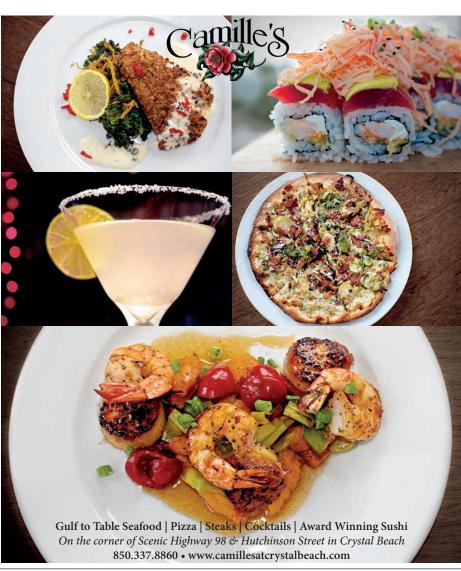
BIG RED TRUCK Specializing in private events and full service catering. 850-737-1185. **www.destinfoodtrucks.com.**

COFFEE SHOPS

MAAS COFFEE ROASTERS Fresh roasted beans of origin, roasted in different profiles. Specialty coffee roasters for 10 years. "Once you go Maas, you'll never go 'Bucks!" Fresh made pastries and bagels, FREE WiFi. Open Mon.-Sat., 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 150 Miracle Strip Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, across from the Indian Temple Mound Museum. 850-585-0496.

CONTEMPORARY

BUD & ALLEY'S This Seaside perennial just keeps getting better. Lunch and dinner daily, with a varying menu offering grilled, roasted, and sautéed fish and shellfish, quail, chicken, pork, and plenty of interesting accompaniments. Full bar, \$4-34. 2236 CR30A East, Seaside, 850-231-5900.





Reachcomber



The Local Guide to Music, Art, Dining, Events & More

Beachcomber is found virtually everywhere along the Emerald Coast.

> **Destin** 30A Fort Walton Beach Santa Rosa Beach **Niceville Navarre Bluewater Bay Mossy Head**

Daily updates and bonus content at www.beachcomberdestin.com

Deadline for advertising and press releases for the July 27-August 9 issue is Thursday, July 20.

Now available at more locations on Scenic Highway 30A!



A Fresh New Look for LuLu's

One of the south's most recognized restaurant brands has updated its iconic signature logo. LuLu's has launched a fresh new look for their 19th summer season catering to the thousands of families cascading upon their coastal restaurant destinations and has landed on a new modernized, clean, fresh look. The new logo incorporates the tropical flair, sun, palm trees, and the effortless flow of water, symbolizing the playful ease you and your family should feel as you enter onto one of LuLu's properties.

Celebrating the culture built over the last 19 years, Buffett and team felt an updated look was relevant as the company begins a new phase of expansion. The new LuLu's logo embodies the colorful spirit of the brand with a new clean and fluid look, encompassing LuLu's new growth and representing its bold, bright future.

Making the most dramatic change to its identity since moving to the Gulf Shores location in 2004, the new design was created by Lisa Terrell, LuLu's graphic designer who has been with the company since its conception, and spearheaded by **George Martin**, LuLu's Chief Operating Officer. Regarding his clear vision for the update, he explained, "We wanted to evolve our visual identity while maintaining a reflection of our culture. Our ultimate goal is to keep the



Fun • Food • Music

elements that are so classically LuLu's with a fresh, modern twist."

Earlier in the season, **Lucy Buffett**, owner of LuLu's, announced her third location in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. "With our plans for expansion, we felt it was the right time for the logo to 'grow up' a bit!" said Buffett. LuLu's Myrtle Beach will showcase the latest logo design, while keeping the true LuLu's essence that visitors enjoy at the flagship location in Gulf Shores, Alabama, and Destin.

While continuing the commitment to vacationers and locals alike, it is LuLu's mission to protect and maintain its brand identity and culture, while positively impacting one community at a time. The latest logo will appear on all platforms over the summer. The process will take over a year to complete, with the updating of billboards, menus, staff shirts, gift shop merchandise and much more. Stay tuned at LuLuBuffett.com.

- Gabrielle Barnett

Restaurant Guide

LOUIS LOUIS Louis Louis is another dining hit. This "sister" restaurant to the famous Red Bar offers a short but all-star menu of fish, chicken, pork, crab cakes and pasta entrees, served in fat portions by a friendly staff. Do whatever you have to do, but don't skip dessert. Colorful décor, comfy tables, full bar, \$5-25.35 Mussett Bavou Rd., Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-1500.

ECLECTIC

CAFÉ THIRTY-A Cafe Thirty-A has been here a while. Finding out why can be a delicious experience. A nightly-changing menu offers steaks, chicken, pork, lamb, and local seafood elegantly prepared with imaginative sauces and sides, courteously served in a beautiful beach-house atmosphere. Lobster bisque, stone crab claws, seasonal fish and shellfish, and wood oven-baked pizzas. Full bar. \$8-36. 3899 E. Scenic Highway 30-A, Seagrove Beach, 850-231-2166

THE RED BAR The place to go—and say you went—in Grayton Beach. The Red Bar offers breakfast, lunch and dinner, with a short but expertly prepared menu of sandwiches, soup and salads for lunch, chicken, local fish, pasta and crab cakes for dinner. The apple dumpling will haunt you, in a good way. Live music, and more local color than you'll know what to do with. Full bar, \$4-21. 70 Hotz Avenue, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008. **www.theredbar.com.**

VIN'TIJ Wine boutique and bistro. Wonderful food, service and a.m.sphere. Great approach to wine service offering Flight or tasters of unique varietals. Open daily for lunch or dinner plus a well stocked retail wine shop. \$5-19, 10859 Emerald Coast Pkwy, Destin, 650-9820.

FOOD TRUCKS

BIG RED TRUCK Gulf to table certified seafood, fresh fish tacos, high end comfort food on the move. We specialize in private events and full service catering. Daily specials and locations on Facebook. 850-737-1185. **www.destinfoodtrucks.com.**

GERMAN/AMERICAN

FOKKERS PUB German sausages and homemade schnitzels go great with German beer! Brick oven pizza, grilled or fried wings, burgers, sandwiches and salad bar—there's something for everyone! Live music Wednesdays and Fridays. Located at 215 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE Unit #1 in Downtown Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-6666.

HEALTHY DINING

GEORGE'S AT ALYS BEACH Established in 2008, George's has offered regional coastal fare infused with global flavors to the quaint town of Alvs Beach. We craft all of our dishes using locally sourced organic produce and the freshest seafood available, and present each with a generous helping of love. Our dishes fall into two categories—Behave and Misbehave. The Behave section features organic, spa-inspired dishes, while the Misbehave side touts traditional beach fare like fried seafood baskets and po-boys. The menu is rounded out with a thoughtfully curated wine list and a selection of decadent desserts. Our charming beach cottage provides the perfect backdrop for a casual dinner with friends and family. Dine indoors in our airy yet cozy dining room, or soak in the beautiful Florida sunshine on our front deck

or screened porches. Open 11 a..-3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. 30 Castle Harbour Dr., Panama City Beach, 850-641-0017, **georgesatalysbeach.** net.

IRISH

JOHNNY MCTIGHE'S Ireland on Scenic 30-A, a unique outpost of food and drink in Santa Rosa Beach. McTighe's opens at 11 a.m. and closes at 2 a.m. the next day. In between, the all-day menu offers an Irish grand slam of a breakfast, fish and chips, wings, pizza, and an array of hearty sandwiches, including Irish reuben, Philly cheese steak, burgers, chicken and hot dogs. There's even Maine lobster bisque. Full bar, \$4 - 21. 2298 Scenic Highway 30-A West, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-0101. www.johnnymctighesirishpub.com.

ITALIAN

TUSCANY ITALIAN BISTRO Authentic Italian cuisine includes pasta, freshest seafood, tender veal and more. A true taste of Italy--beautiful Italian decor with handpainted murals. Live Entertainment by Eclipse (Don and Amanda), Special Happy Hour from 5 to 8 p.m. 36178 Emerald Coast Pkwy. Next to City Market in Destin. 850-650-2451.

LATIN / MEXICAN

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA Traditional and not so traditional Mexican and Latin food, featuring snapper enchiladas, grouper tacos, and award-winning seafood chorizo gumbo. Great selection of seafood dishes and Black Angus steaks, and all are big portions so make sure you're hungry. Spacious dining area, multiple bars, even a fountain, plus the view of Destin Bridge and the East Pass. Full bar, wide choice of margaritas and beers, \$4-28, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex. 850-424-7417. www. CrabIslandCantina.com.

LA COCINA MEXICAN GRILL & BAR Since 2009, La Cocina has served traditional Tex-Mex fare with a coastal twist in a fun, festive atmosphere. We prepare all of our dishes from scratch using the freshest ingredients available. La Cocina is nestled between Rosemary Beach and Alys Beach in Seacrest Beach. Menu highlights include Tacos de Camerones with grilled shrimp, shredded lettuce, habanero pickled onions and feta cheese; the Pollo Fundido with shredded chicken and sour cream (chimichanga style) topped with cheese; and the Lobster Quesadilla with lobster, crab, shrimp and cheese topped with chipotle aioli and fruit salsa. Saturdays and Sundays, enjoy \$7 specialty cocktails during football season. Open 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. 10343 East CR-30A, Panama City Beach, 850-231-4021, lacocina30a.net.

LA PAZ offers just about anything you'd want from a Mexican-Southwestern kitchen, including tamales, tacos, fajitas, burritos, enchiladas and quesadillas, plus a thoughtfully prepared list of grilled local fish and shellfish and imaginative spins on classics. Daily dinner specials, full bar. \$15-25. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-837-2247. **www.lapazdestin.com.**

PEPITO'S MEXICAN GRILL An enormous menu, plenty of room, and a friendly staff make Pepito's a good bet for a Mexican snack

30A's Best Food Delivered to Your Door

Pronto Delivery Co., a food delivery service powered by electric bicycles, began taking orders earlier this month. Pronto will initially service Grayton Beach, WaterColor, Seaside and Seagrove nightly, from 4 to 9 p.m., along with a special breakfast delivery to an expanded area.

Frustrated by a lack of food delivery selections, founders **Chris Cumby, Glen Metropolit** and **Rob Truax** were inspired to deliver a much-needed concept to 30A by bike. The initial rollout includes 30A favorites Barefoot BBQ, Bud and Alley's Pizza Bar + Trattoria, and Charlie's Donut Truck, with Chiringo starting later in July.

"There are days where you just don't want to cook, and waiting in traffic to pick up a meal just isn't an option," says Metropolit. "As dads, we understand the balancing act of wanting a great dining experience without sacrificing the sanctity of bedtime. With Pronto,

you get the best of both worlds, and your favorite 30A foods are delivered right to your door."

The use of electric bicycles was a vital element in the development of the business. With traffic intensifying on 30A, bikes are often the fastest moving mode of transportation along the scenic highway. Electric bikes allow riders to cover greater distances in less time, creating a fast and fresh food delivery experience for users.

"From a sustainability standpoint, the use of electric bikes was a no brainer," says Cumby. "We want to provide a service that locals and visitors both need, without negatively impacting the environment of this beautiful place we call home."

To learn more about having your favorite meals delivered to you, visit www.Pronto30a.com.

- Juile Cumby

Restaurant Guide

or feast. Traditional and unusual fare includes carnitas, enchiladas, fajitas, vegetarian dishes, steaks and seafood specialties. \$4-19. 757 Harbor Blvd, Destin, 650-7734. Additional locations in Bluewater Bay and Fort Walton Beach. **www.mypepitos.com**.

PIZZA & PASTA

CRUST PIZZERIA We strive to make the very best pizza. We make our own dough and sauce and grate the finest whole milk mozzarella. We make our own meatballs, slice the Italian sweet sausages, chop the fresh vegetables, then assemble your pizza just for you and bake it to perfection in a brick oven. Eat-in, takeout and delivery. Wine and craft beers. Open Mon.-Sat., 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sundays, 4-10 p.m. 104 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-460-2990. **destincrustpizzeria.com**.

CRUST PIZZERIA Pizza, calzones, pasta, salads, desserts and more made fresh. Wine and craft beers. Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. 433 Page Bacon Rd., Mary Esther, 850-737-2121.

CRUST PIZZERIA Pizza, calzones, pasta, salads, desserts and more made fresh. Wine and craft beers. Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. 1826 Lewis Turner Blvd., Fort Walton Beach, 850-737-2299.

LANDSHARK'S PIZZA Daily happy hour, 3-6 p.m. and full liquor bar plus award-winning pizza and wings. 360 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-460-6743. **www.LandsharksPizza.com.**

MELLOW MUSHROOM PIZZA BAKERY Widely, wildly assorted menu of stone baked pizzas, hoaqies, calzones, salads, and specialty

items. Pizzas traditional and exotic include pesto, jerk chicken, gourmet white, and Magical Mystery Tour. Colorful psychedelic décor and friendly service. \$4-25.960 Hwy 98E, Sunsations Plaza, Destin, 650-6420.

REDBRICK PIZZA Fresh fire-roasted pizzas, fhazani sandwiches and gourmet Italian gelato Ice cream. We use only Qualita superior Italian cheeses and premium ingredients. Savor the passion of a century-old Italian tradition. Locations are Destin Commons next to Rave Motion Pictures, 850-424-5990; and Pier Park, Panama City Beach, 850-236-1413. Hours are Sun.-Thurs., 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fri. and Sat., 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

SEAFOOD

THE BACK PORCH Experience open air dining with the best view of the Gulf of Mexico. Serving grouper, oysters, fried crab claws and our famous char-grilled amberjack. Lunch and dinner. Open daily from 11 a.m. 1740 Old Highway 98 East, Destin. On U.S. 98 across from the Track, turn at the Hampton Inn, drive about 1/4 mile, and you'll find us on the right side. **www.theback-porch.com.** 850-837-2022.

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF A tradition since 1977, Capt. Dave's is a go-to place for the kind of seafood that made this area famous. A time-tested selection of fried, grilled, and broiled fish, shellfish, steaks and chicken, with house and seasonal specialties. Full bar. \$5-25. 3796 Scenic Hwy 98, Destin, 850-837-2627.

GRANDE VISTA BAR & GRILL Located in the Emerald Grande. Open daily 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Grande Vista Bar & Grill has delicious local seafood, signature sandwiches and mouth-watering burgers. Enjoy casual or business lunch inside or poolside overlooking the Destin Harbor. Enjoy special drink prices inside or outside at our poolside bar. The view from our pool deck is simply breathtaking. Half-priced drinks daily, 4-6 p.m. 10 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8100 x1550. **info@emeraldgrande.com.**

HARBOR DOCKS on the historic Destin Harbor has been serving simply prepared Gulf to table seafood from its own market since 1979. Offering hearty breakfasts, a lunch menu featuring blue plate specials alongside authentic Thai dishes, and the area's best sushi by world famous Chef Yoshie Eddings. In addition to traditional Gulf seafood dishes, there is something for everyone. 538 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-2506. harbordocks.com.

HARRY T'S LIGHTHOUSE Located in HarborWalk Village right on the beautiful Destin Harbor, Harry T's has something for all ages! With entrees ranging from fresh local seafood to our gourmet hamburgers, there's something for everyone! Voted Best Place to Watch the Sunset four years in a row, our outside deck offers an unparalleled view of the Destin Harbor. Mega Happy Hour Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. 46 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-654-4800. info@harryts.co.

LOCAL CATCH has established itself as a Hot Spot for fresh coastal cuisine with superior customer service. Dine in daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and enjoy Happy Hour Mon.-Fri., 3-5 p.m. Join us every Sunday for live music from 3 to 7 p.m. 3711 West Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-2022. **www.localcatch30a.com.**

OLD BAY STEAMER Wide variety of fresh steamed seafood served in every imaginable combination. Choose from crab, shrimp, lobster, oysters, clams, mussels, and fresh catch of the day. Pasta and steak/seafood pairings also offered. Friendly, efficient service. Open daily for dinner, with full bar. \$4-27, 102 Santa Rosa Blvd., Okaloosa Island, 664-2795.

ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK Located on the water. The Crab Shack serves crab, shrimp, oysters, mussels, scallops and assorted local fish in an informal and family-friendly atmosphere. Crab steamer buckets, fried seafood baskets, sandwiches and po-boys, and some land-based items. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Daily specials, inside and outside dining. Full bar. \$3-45. 104 Miracle Strip Pkwy., Fort Walton Beach. 850-664-0345.

POMPANO JOE'S Come on in for some fun and fresh seafood with a very exciting flavor. Try our famous reggae rolls and our garlic crusted grouper! Lunch and dinner. Open daily from 11 a.m. 2237 Scenic Gulf Highway, Destin. Take Holiday Road South, turn right on scenic Hwy. 98, drive down about two blocks, and you'll find us on the left side. **www.pompano-joes.com**. 850-837-2224.

SALTWATER GRILL We provide a relaxing, casual atmosphere designed to heighten the enjoyment of our customers' dining experience. Most of our tables have entertaining views of a 25,000-gallon aquarium filled with exotic fish. Become mesmerized by the soothing sounds of **Michael Rorah**, our singing pianist, who plays Tuesday through Saturday evenings. Lobsters available for viewing and choosing at the front of the restaurant. Open 4-10 p.m.

1100 Hutchinson Blvd., Panama City Beach, 850-230-2739, **saltwatergrillpcb.com**.

STINKY'S FISH CAMP Seafood is king at this informal Santa Rosa Beach eatery. Oysters "all ways," crawfish pie, catfish or frog legs meuniere, and gumbo are just a few of the Louisiana-inspired dishes. Service is friendly and attentive. Open daily 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Serving brunch on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Beer, wine and live music at Stinky's Bait Shack from 6 to 9 p.m. 5960 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-3053.

STEAKS

MCGUIRE'S IRISH PUB OF DESTIN One of America's Great Steak Houses. Feasting, Imbibery and Debauchery. We are known for great food, exceptional service, our own craft brewed beers, and fun live entertainment. Open LATE, from 11 a.m. to 1:45 a.m. seven days a week. 33 U.S. 98, Destin, 850-650-0000, www.mcguiresirishpub.com.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE serves the finest aged, corn-fed USDA Prime beef. Broiled in a trademark 1,800° broiler and served on a plate heated to 500 degrees, your steak is presented sizzling hot at your table. Happy hour daily from 5 to 7 p.m. in any of our three bars, including the new East Bar. We boast an array of private event spaces, our own private billiard room, valet parking, and live entertainment five nights a week from *Billboard*-charting recording artist Michael J Thomas (upon availability). Open seven days a week at 5 p.m. For reservations, call 850-837-RUTH (7884) or visit **www.RuthsChrisDestin.com.**

SALTWATER GRILL Open 4-10 p.m. 1100 Hutchinson Blvd., Panama City Beach, 850-230-2739, **saltwatergrillpcb.com**.

SEAGAR'S PRIME STEAKS & SEAFOOD The area's first AAA 4-Diamond restaurant specializing in the finest prime beef and freshest seafood available. Private dining facilities and wine room with more than 800 labels. Features tableside preparations and live piano nightly. Reservations recommended. 622-1500. \$10-50, 4000 Sandestin Blvd., at the Hilton Sandestin. **www.SeagarsDestin.com**

SUSHI

JACKACUDAS SEAFOOD & SUSHI is a locally-owned seafood and sushi restaurant overlooking the historic Destin Harbor. The name derives from a famous fishing hole located 34 miles southwest of the Destin Harbor at 30'04.250N and 87'02.125W. Specializing in fresh, locally sourced seafood and products to provide our guests with classic Gulf Coast seafood dishes with New South culinary preparation. Open daily, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. 56 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-424-3507. www.jackacudas.com.

OSAKA JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE AND SUSHI BAR 34745 Emerald Coast Pkwy, Destin, 650-4688.

OSAKA SUSHI ROCKS It's the little Sushi house on the Lagoon. Osaka Sushi Rocks offers an extensive list of sushi, sashimi, and rolls, both classic and regional specialties. Friendly, serene atmosphere. Tempura, noodles and teriyaki favorites also available. Wine and beer. \$4-50. 108 Cannery Lane, Village of Baytowne Wharf, 351-1006.

Carl Hiaasen CONTINUED...

travel must be done only with licensed tour companies and guides. That's a vacation-killer for many tourists.

And once the state-run hotels are officially off-limits—a list will be announced within months—U.S. charter companies will have a difficult time finding group accommodations. That, and Trump's promised strict review of those seeking to visit the island under the 12 allowable categories, will cause a sharp drop in interest among American travelers, and major blow to Cuban tourism.

Rubio disingenuously says the Trump doctrine is to punish only the military regime. He told *The Miami Herald:* "If we're going to have more economic engagement with Cuba, it will be with the Cuban people."

The senator failed to reveal how the Cuban people can sidestep the reach of that bureaucracy and conduct business directly with Americans. In truth, it's not possible. The nascent private sector can grow only if the regime allows it.

For many Cubans, the most desirable "economic engagement" is the kind that

puts more cash in their pockets, which American tourism does.

Significantly, Trump left untouched major parts of Obama's supposedly terrible Cuba policy. If you do get there, you can still bring home plenty of cigars and rum. Cuban Americans can still send unlimited money to friends and relatives. The U.S. Embassy in Havana remains open, and the "wet foot, dry foot" immigration exception for Cuban migrants has not been revived.

The speech that the president gave in Miami celebrating his new tough-guy approach was as politically driven as the policy itself. It has no chance of persuading Castro to do anything but dig in his heels, just as brother did for half a century.

And, like the hapless trade embargo, Trump's crackdown on travel and commerce in Cuba will hurt only the people he is pretending to care about.

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for The Miami Herald. Readers may write to him at 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, FL 33132.

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Restaurant Guide

VKI JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE, SUSHI BAR & HIBACHI Serving authentic Japanese cuisine. Come in and enjoy fresh seafood, chicken, pork and beef cooked to suit most tastes. We offer Hibachi, Teriyaki, Tempura, Katsu, Japanese noodles and fresh Sushi. Beer, wine and sake. Happy hour, 4:40-6:30 p.m. Open seven days a week—lunch, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; dinner, 4:30-9:30 p.m. 4552 U.S. 98 Suite 1 & 2, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2555. Gift certificates available.

TAPAS AND WINE

LA CREMA TAPAS AND CHOCOLATE

Spanish-inspired tapas restaurant featuring unique tapas and Spanish wines. The European vibe provides a relaxing atmosphere where we encourage guests to share dishes, converse and enjoy Rosemary Beach living. Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. 38 Main St., Rosemary Beach, 850-624-7282, lacrematapas.com.

WATERFRONT DINING

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA Traditional and not so traditional Mexican and Latin food, featuring snapper enchiladas, grouper tacos, and award-winning seafood chorizo gumbo. Great selection of seafood dishes and Black Angus steaks, and all are big portions so make sure you're hungry. Spacious dining area, multiple bars, even a fountain, plus the view of Destin Bridge and the East Pass. Full bar, wide choice of margaritas and beers, \$4-28, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex. 850-424-7417. www. CrabIslandCantina.com.

FUDPUCKER'S BEACHSIDE BAR & GRILL — OKALOOSA ISLAND Find out why Fudpucker's is #1 for Food and Fun. Fud's has offered great food, live alligators and world famous t-shirts since 1982, and our waterfront location across from the Ramada Plaza has it all—Fat Daddy's Arcade, Escape Zone 60, Maximum Magic Dinner Show and Fudpucker's Watersports where you can rent a jet ski, paddleboard or pontoon boat. You'll also find charter boats, the "Puc Dat" airboat and the Cattywampus Catamaran on our docks at Bayside Marina. 1318 Miracle Strip Parkway. Call 850-243-3833 or visit us at www.fudpucker.com.

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE

From a volcano flowing with Margaritas to suspended airplanes, Margaritaville is more than a restaurant; it's a state of mind. Open daily, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Five O'Clock Somewhere celebration Mon.-Thu., 4-7 p.m. 76 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-460-7700. www. margaritavilledestin.com.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S DESTIN is located next to the Mid Bay Bridge and Legendary Marine on the Choctawhatchee Bay in beautiful Destin, Florida. A little off the beaten path, but we like a little more room to breathe. Specializing in the BEST Burgers in Paradise, Southern Favorites and Lucy's own GUMBO LOVE! Family friendly! Come by boat, anchor and wade in or call for our boat shuttle. Open daily at 11 a.m. Live music nightly. Separate allergy menu. Beach for the kids to play, Fountain of Youth, LuLu's Gift Shop. 850-710-LULU (5858). www.lulubuffett.com/destin.

VUE ON 30A showcases one of the best views for dining in all of South Walton. Open to the public and serving lunch, dinner, happy hour and Sunday brunch. Named "Best Restaurant

of 2014" by *The Beachcomber,* Vue on 30a offers the ultimate dining experience. Open for Sunday brunch, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; lunch Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; happy hour Tue.-Sat., 3-6 p.m.; dinner Tue.-Sat., 4:30-8:30 p.m. Two for one entrée specials Wed.-Sat., 4:30-6 p.m. 4801 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2305. **www.Vueon30a.com.**

WINE BARS

45 CENTRAL WINE BAR Tucked away in Seaside's bustling Central Square, 45 Central offers a calm and relaxing atmosphere perfect for unwinding after a busy vacation day or a long day at work. Over 45 different wines available by the glass, bottle or case. Exclusive vintages sold

by the glass using Coravin Wine Technology. Small plates of seasonal and regional pairings created daily by award-winning chef and owner **Jim Shirley**. Brunch daily, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Check us out online for wine classes, events and specials at **fortyfivecentral.com**. 45 Central Square, Seaside, 850-231-4545. Open 2 p.m.-midnight seven days a week.

Where to Spend Your Happy Hours in Beachcomberland

If your bar isn't listed here, you need to email chris@beachcomberdestin.com immediately!

THE BEACH HOUSE

4009 S. Sandestin Blvd., Miramar Beach 850-608-6300

RelaxDrinkEat.com

When: 4-7 p.m. daily.

Drink Specials: \$4 house wine, \$3 well drinks, \$2 off select apps, and \$1 off all draft beers.

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA

HarborWalk Village, Destin 850-424-7417

When: Everyday from 3 to 6 p.m.

Drink Specials: \$4 house margaritas, \$3 well drinks and house wine, \$3 Corona, Corona Light, Bud Light and Miller Lite.

CAMILLE'S CAFE

2931 Scenic Highway 98, Destin 850-337-8860

When: 3-5 p.m. daily.

Drink Specials: Lots, including Camille's Signature Sangria. Plus a stunning view of the Gulf.

FISHHEADS

HarborWalk Village, Destin

When: 6-8 p.m. daily.

Drink Specials: \$1 off premium drafts and Drink of the Day.

FOKKER'S PUB

215 Miracle Strip Parkway SE Unit #1, Fort Walton Beach 850-244-6666

When: 3-7 p.m. daily; 3 p.m.-close Tuesdays. **Drink Specials:** Everything half price except Bushwhackers and high end bourbons.

45 CENTRAL WINE BAR

45 Central Square, Seaside 850-231-4545

for ty five central.com

When: 4-6 p.m. daily. Paella nights Wednesdays and Fridays.

Drink Specials: Half off wine by the glass, \$1 off beer.

FUDPUCKER'S BEACHSIDE BAR & GRILL

20001 Emerald Coast Parkway, Destin 850-654-4200

When: All day long.

Drink Specials: Smirnoff martinis \$4.99 all day every day. World Famous Fudpucker Punch \$5.99, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Daily deals with download of the Fud app.

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Original art by Angie Boling.

GRANDE VISTA

Emerald Grande, HarborWalk Village, Destin 850-337-8100, ext. 1550

When: 4-6 p.m. daily.

Drink Specials: All drinks half off (except bottles of wine and Drink Special of the Day), plus specially priced apps.

HARRY T'S

HarborWalk Village, Destin

850-654-4800

When: Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-7 p.m.—downstairs

bar only.

Drink Specials: Half off drinks.

HOG'S BREATH SALOON

541 Harbor Blvd., Destin 850-837-5991

When: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and 10 p.m. to close,

Mon.-Fri.

Drink Specials: Half off wells and calls, \$1 Bud Light draft, \$1 off domestic beer and wines.

JACKACUDAS

HarborWalk Village, Destin 850-424-3507

When: Monday-Friday, 3-6 p.m. Sushi bar and bar area only. Bonzai Wednesdays, 6 p.m.-close with half price sake, house wine, apps and sushi rolls.

Drink Specials: Half-price hot sake carafes, house wine pours, select draft beers and select apps, plus \$5 California rolls, spicy krab rolls and crunch salmon rolls.

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE

HarborWalk Village, Destin 850-460-7700

When: Monday-Friday, 10 p.m.-close.

Drink Specials: \$3 14-ounce Bud Light or Landshark draft, \$4 Barefoot cabernet and chardonnay, \$5 "Who's to Blame" margaritas and "5 O'Clock Somewhere" cocktails.

LANDSHARK'S PIZZA

300 Harbor Blvd., Destin 850-424-6743 When: 3-6 p.m. daily.

Drink Specials: \$1 off well drinks, \$2.25 domestic drafts and bottles, \$4 wine.

LA PAZ

950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin 850-837-2247

When: 4-6 p.m. daily.

Drink Specials: \$5 top shelf Margaritas, FREE chips and salsa.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S

4607 Legendary Marina Drive, Destin 850-710-LULU (5858)

When: Monday-Friday, 3-6 p.m.

Drink Specials: \$2 select drafts, \$8 pitchers, \$3 glass house wines, \$4 rocks house Margaritas, \$6 frozen house Margaritas and Daiquiris.

RED DOOR SALOON

240 Harbor Blvd.. Destin

When: Mon.-Fri., 3-7 p.m., \$1 off beer, wine and wells. Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., two-for-one wells and beer.

SAMMY'S

1224 Santa Rosa Blvd., Fort Walton Beach

When: Early happy hour, 1-6 p.m. Late night happy hour, 2-4 a.m. Never a cover charge for escorted women, military, or restaurant-hotel-bar employees.

Drink Specials: Early happy hour—two for \$5 well drinks, \$10 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge. Late night happy hour—two for \$6 well drinks, \$12 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge after 3 a.m.

VUE ON 30A

4801 West County Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach 850-267-2305

When: Seven days a week, 3-6 p.m.

Drink Specials: \$5 house wine and discounts on well and call liquor and beer, plus up to 20 percent off select bar menu pricing.

From the Archives – Time Rolls on for Lou Gramm (October 2005)

By Chris Manson

The band Foreigner celebrates 40 years in 2017—and numerous lineup changes, including the departure of lead singer **Lou Gramm**, who headlined the 2005 Destin Seafood Festival and spoke to Beachcomber from the road prior to the gig. A new compilation, Foreigner 40, is out now on Rhino Records.

You're still everywhere and not just on classic rock radio. Nick at Nite is using "Feels Like the First Time" in its current ad campaign.

No kidding! I haven't heard that yet, and I've got kids who watch Nick at Nite. That's really cool.

You don't hear a lot of juicy Behind the Music-type tales about Lou Gramm. How did you manage to avoid some of the career detours—drugs, booze, burnout—that affected so many rockers of your generation? No, that stuff definitely happened, believe you me. I can't get specific, but at some point you and the world will know.

Of all the songs you've written and performed, which is your favorite?

There's a number of them I like. I guess if I had to pick one right now I'd say "Midnight Blue." I think it's very eclectic, has an infectious beat, the hook has just the right sentiment to jump on and sing along with. It's just one of those songs, and those come few and far between.

Rolling Stone called you "the Pavarotti of the power ballad," adding that you were "one of the finest singers in metal pop."

I think that's—it sounds kinda left-handed—I honestly believe that's a compliment. It's about as good as you're going to get from them. Me, anyway (laughs).

Are you going back in the studio to record new material? It's been a while since your last album.

Foreigner had an album out in the mid-'90s (*Mr. Moonlight*). It was a good album, but at the time, all of the record industry was in upheaval. The small independents were ruling. It happened for us in the rest of the world in a big way, but not in the U.S. The past year and a half I've been playing with my brothers, and we're trying to confine our playing to just weekends.

Monday through Thursday we spend at least two of those four days in the studio working on our album. We've got about nine or 10 songs done. We want to do a few more. It's a Christian rock album, with the emphasis on rock, something I have wanted to make. I'm a born-again Christian since about 1991. I had a serious brain tumor removed in 1997, and that deepened my conviction in the Lord. And I evolved. I wanted to make the kind of album that would be understood and not sound dated or weird or anything. It's gonna be a rock album with a message.



How does your faith affect your live performances? Some of the old Foreigner songs would seem to clash with your convictions.

I'm still doing a lot of things that give me a little twinge, because I really don't believe that anymore. A little at a time, we're weeding them out of the set. There always was a misconception of Foreigner—critics lump us in with Styx and REO Speedwagon. They haven't really listened to us. Some critics still don't see the difference. Getting back to what I'm doing now, I'm drawing a line in the sand. This will be something where people say we don't sound like anyone. The message, feel, and instrumentation are like nobody else.

Would you ever consider doing an album of old songs? It seems like every artist is throwing his or her hat into the "Great American Songbook" ring these days.

That might be fun to do, but that would be my farewell album.

You've been going at it for about 25 years now. What would you consider the high points?

Twenty-seven years with Foreigner, another six or seven with Black Sheep, and four on my own now. I definitely think the high point was Black Sheep getting its first record deal with Chrysalis and then Capitol Records. Seeing Foreigner blossom, that was really fun for a number of years. Then I would have to say my first solo album was a real effort of love. They all were, but that was one I needed to do desperately.

You mentioned your kids. Are they musically inclined as well?

My two older ones aren't. They've had instruments and lost interest, but they love to listen. They are astute listeners. I have six-year-old twins—a boy and girl—they sing and are now starting to play piano and drums. They have wonderful voices and a real knack. They keep asking, "Daddy, when are we gonna sing?"

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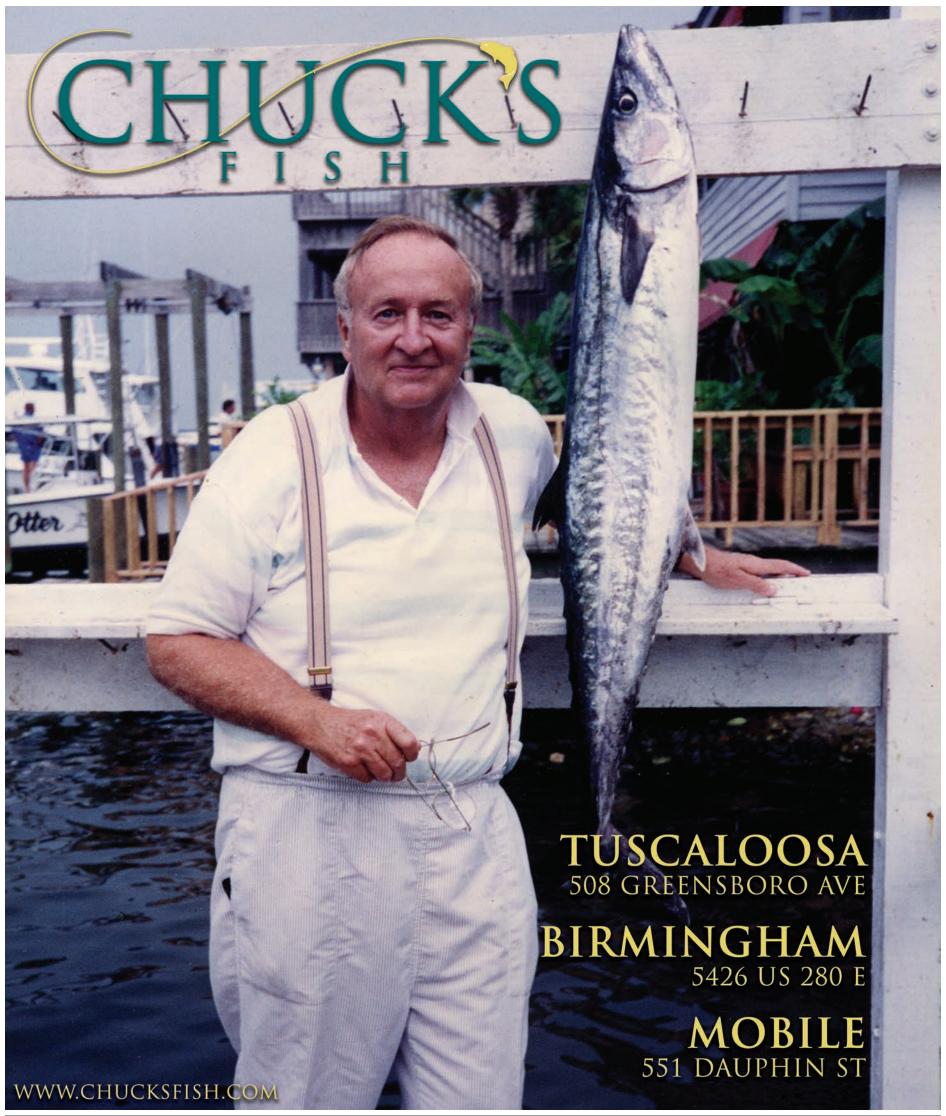
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